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START Negotiator Assesses Treaty Achievements

PM0908150091 Moscow IAN PRESS RELEASE in English 2 Aug 91

[Interview with Soviet START Treaty negotiator Yuriy Nazarkin by Vladimir Markov; date, place not given; first paragraph is introduction: "Soviet Start Negotiator on the Treaty"]

[Text] Vladimir Markov of Novosti Press Agency talks to Yuriy Nazarkin, who led the Soviet delegation at the talks to formulate the Start treaty.

[Markov] Without challenging the historic significance of the Start treaty, I wonder why it has not been possible to cut Soviet and American strategic nuclear arms by 50 per cent or more, as originally planned?

[Nazarkin] In working out the Start treaty we have done all that seemed optimally possible to set in motion the process of reduction of such weapons and continue it. Fifty percent was indeed mentioned. But the reference was to 50 percent cuts in individual parameters of strategic arms. And these parameters have been kept to. For example, we agreed to reduce the aggregate throw-weigh of ballistic missiles approximately by half. The treaty states this. The same applies to reduction of heavy intercontinental ballistic missiles.

To be sure, deeper cuts would have been preferable. But even the reductions agreed on are given seven years to carry out. It is essential, furthermore, that this should be done without detriment to the environment.

In order to push on with the reduction of strategic arms, the Soviet Union and the United States a year ago agreed to carry out fresh talks on strategic stability. So the process will continue.

[Markov] The Start treaty still allows both parties to carry out programmes to develop new weapons. Do you think this is a shortcoming of the treaty?

[Nazarkin] The treaty, naturally, does not ban all nuclear arms. If it had set itself such a task, then we could have pressed for ending appropriate military programmes. I agree that we should have the goal of creating a nuclear-free world, although its full achievement is unrealistic.

Unfortunately, in politics, I believe, the force of inertia is by far stronger than in the physical world. In politics it is impossible to revert a process momentarily, unlike in physics. In politics, this requires a more or less gradual turnaround.

The meaning of the treaty signed by the Soviet and American Presidents, in my view, is that the buildup of strategic arms has now been stopped and the process is now in the descendent. So the main purport of the treaty, from my point of view, lies in changing the inertia of the strategic arms race and also, of course, in actual cuts of such arms.

[Markov] As leader of the Soviet delegation at the Start talks, what do you intend to do in the near future?

[Nazarkin] I will be bringing the content of the treaty and a number of bulky accompanying documents to all levels of departments expected to observe these understandings.

Besides, we have already begun preparations for the ratification of the treaty. Some people in the Soviet Union will certainly claim that we have gone too far in meeting the Americans in some respects. In the US, there will be claims that the American administration made heavy concessions on other aspects. But to see the treaty in proper perspective it cannot be carved up into parts, but considered as a whole.

Indeed, we made concessions in some areas, while in others it was the US that made them. The result has been a balance of interests. So the treaty reducing the threat of war and strengthening stability benefits both the Soviet Union and the United States, all countries and nations.

Dzasokhov Confident of Ratification

LD1008195991 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1900 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The chairman of the Soviet parliamentary Committee on International Affairs, Aleksandr Dzasokhov, is confident that the START treaty Presidents Gorbachev and Bush signed in Moscow on 31 July will be ratified. Speaking in a Saturday TV broadcast, Aleksandr Dzasokhov said, that the treaty stood low chances of being ratified easily, let alone by a unanimous vote. He felt serious steps must be taken to ensure the ratification. He saw one of the national priorities in working out a well coordinated strategy for converting defense plants to civilian production. He stressed now that the START treaty had been signed, it would be inadmissible to procrastinate with the conversion. He put forward the idea of the immediate creation of permanent bilateral and possibly multilateral structures to promote new arms reductions.

Foreign Ministry on Turkish Action Against Iraq

PM0908225991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Aug 91 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Statement by USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman"]

[Text] The Soviet side perceives with concern the incoming reports on the events taking place these last few days in the region of the Turkish-Iraqi border. What is involved is a military action undertaken there by Turkey. Whatever the aims and reasons that have motivated this action, it is not, in our opinion, in conformity with the norms now becoming established for resolving the problems that arise, all the more so in that the borders of a sovereign state have been violated. Peaceful means are always preferable to military means. In the case in question, we are talking about a sensitive region which was quite recently the scene of dramatic events involving many members of the international community. As far as we are concerned, this is also a region adjoining Soviet borders.

We would like to express hope for the swiftest cessation of the use of military force, and for the normalization of the situation in the region.

Soviet Officers Invited To Study at NATO

LD1008162291 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1210 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Comentary by Anatoliy Potapov]

[Text] The North Atlantic Alliance has officially invited Soviet and East European army officers to join its study programs next October. This commentary by Anatoliy Potapov.

The plan, worked out by NATO's supreme commander in chief, U.S. General John Galvin, has apparently come into being to promote NATO's military cooperation with the Soviet Union. Although the media so far cannot claim to have detailed knowledge of Gen. Galvin's plan, it has been disclosed that the Soviet officers will be invited to enter NATO's Military College in Rome and the Oberammergau Military Academy in Germany. The WALL ST. JOURNAL is marvelling at the prospect of the former Soviet enemy being trained in the same classrooms where NATO's own men are taught to handle nuclear devices. This possibility indeed spells out how European and world changes are taking place. Besides launching the working relationship with the Soviet Union, Gen. Galvin's plan aims to take a fresh look at this country.

The irreversible processes of international changes has demanded that the Atlantic Alliance take a fresh look at its former enemy. The alliance's blueprints have lost their former militaristic approach, and the alliance's leaders recently proposed in Copenhagen that the East European nations join NATO'S study programs, share information on the conversion of their defense plants for civilian use and, together with the alliance, study ways to improve civilian control of defense matters. Such cooperation will bring about more openness and trust.

Moscow, however, remembers that NATO leaders see the need for upgrading the alliance's military strategy, since, in their view, the Soviet Union has remained a major military power. What has emerged as Europe's one and only military alliance cannot replace collective security structures being built in the framework of the Helsinki process, but the invitation NATO has extended to the Soviet and East European officers proves perhaps that NATO is changing too.

UN Decision on Micronesia Admission Postponed

LD0808230191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1856 GMT 8 Aug 91

[By correspondent Mikhail Kochetkov]

[Text] The UN, 8 Aug (TASS)—At the USSR's request, the Security Council today postponed for 24 hours the question of the admission to the United Nations of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The TASS correspondent was informed by Soviet diplomats involved in the Security Council consultations that instructions to this effect had been sent from Moscow to the Soviet delegation at the United Nations, since this issue should be debated in the USSR Supreme Soviet beforehand.

Although the UN committee on the admission of new members has already recommended that UN membership be approved for these formations, this matter is in the view of many observers insufficiently clear. The UN trusteeship in relation to both these formations situated in the Pacific Ocean concluded at the end of last year. The agreement concerning the trusteeship has been in operation since 1947, and the governing power in these islands had been the United States. In the 1980's both territories signed "free association" agreements with the United States. Washington then began to strive for an end to the UN trusteeship.

For a whole number of years the USSR had considered that the "free association" agreements has been foisted by Washington on the people of these island formations and had hampered the cancellation of the trusteeship. However,these objections had been removed at the end of last year as a result of the improved relations between the USSR and the United States. STill, all the handbooks in the USSR refer to Micronesia, of which both these state formations are parts, as a "United States possession". The status of being states freely associated with the USA grants the islands self-government, but leaves the questions of defence and foreign affairs in Washington's hands.

In a conversation with a TASS correspondent, one of the Soviet diplomats noted that the USSR had always regarded Micronesia as a single federated formation

consisting of four parts: the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas and the Republic of Palau. In relation to the latter formation the UN trusteeship has still not been removed, since the population of Palau has as a result of several referendums not approved the agreement on "free association" with the United States. The admission to the United Nations of two of the four formations could also set a precedent for the membership in this international organization of separate parts of federative states, and such a precedent would pave the way into the UN, for instance, for the republics of Yugoslavia and certain other countries.

So a decision on this matter now depends wholly on the USSR Supreme Soviet. Thomas Pickering, the United States permanent representative to the United Nations, told journalists: "We understand the need for such parliamentary procedures."

'Human Dimension' Conference Previewed

LD0808160191 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 8 Aug 91

[By Konstantin Voytsekhovich]

[Text] Moscow August 8 TASS—The CSCE forum on human dimension, which opens in Moscow on September 10, will be attended, aside from official delegations of member-states of the all-European process, by 7,000 to 10,000 representatives of the Soviet and foreign public, as well as international non-governmental human rights organisations. This was reported today by Vladimir Petrovskiy, Soviet deputy foreign minister and executive secretary of the international secretariat of the forum, at a meeting with Soviet human rights activists. He pointed out that, according to preliminary estimates, 1,500 journalists will cover the Moscow forum which will last for about a month.

"Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev is expected to speak at the opening of the conference. The participation of foreign ministers of CSCE countries will turn it into an extraordinary political event, the significance of which will go far beyond the framework of humanitarian and legal problems. We hope that the Moscow forum will become a bridge to the holding of such events after Helsinki-2—another summit scheduled for 1992," the Soviet diplomat said.

Speaking about subjects to be discussed at the forthcoming conference, Petrovskiy stressed that discussions would be held in accordance with the agenda, formed at similar conferences in Paris in 1989, as well as in Copenhagen in 1990. It includes a report on the fulfillment of their commitments by member states, the evaluation of the functioning of the all-European mechanism of human dimension, as well as the coordination of proposals on new measures to be taken in this sphere.

Petrovskiy believes that the Moscow forum will focus on the rights of national minorities and the native population, guarantees of political pluralism, the protection of interests of the socially vulnerable sections of the population, including children, pensioners and the disabled, and the protection of individual rights and freedoms.

He said that the executive secretariat of the forum was attaching special importance to the creation of favourable conditions for holding public actions, parallel to the conference. According to Petrovskiy, the executive secretariat will help representatives of non-governmental organisations and individuals in every way to attend plenary sessions of the forum, to establish contacts with official delegations and journalists. The Soviet diplomat said in this connection that the Europa club will be opened at the cinema centre in Krasnaya Presnya, in the centre of Moscow, during the week of the forum. Representatives of the public will be able to meet members of official delegations and journalists in an informal atmosphere there.

Petrovskiy stressed that participants in all activities connected with the human dimension conference will be able to enter the Soviet Union "in accordance with visas, without any restrictions." Future participants in parallel activities will have to fill a special form, which has already been sent to all Soviet embassies abroad. The term of issuing entry visas will be the same as for official delegations, i.e. no more than 14 days, Petrovskiy said.

United States & Canada

Baker Meets With Deputies on Soviet POW Issue

PM1108144191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[V. Litovkin report: "United States Ready to Help Free Our Prisoners of War"]

[Text] There was quite detailed coverage in the Soviet and international press of the Moscow visit of U.S. President G. Bush and his accompanying delegation. One event, however, escaped the journalists' attention. This was the meeting of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker with USSR People's Deputies Pavel Shetko and Nikolay Engver, members of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for the Affairs of Internationalist Servicemen.

What was discussed? The chief topic of discussion was the problem of releasing Soviet servicemen languishing in captivity in mujahidin camps in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iran. The USSR people's deputies handed the U.S. secretary of state a letter for the country's president, in which they thanked him for his support for establishing contacts between war veterans—citizens of the United States and the Soviet Union—and asked for his assistance in freeing our prisoners.

"The release of Soviet prisoners of war," USSR People's Deputy Nikolay Engver said while speaking with IZVESTIYA's correspondent, "long ago ceased to be a political and ideological problem—it is a purely humanitarian problem. According to data from competent British organizations, 40 of the 300 missing Soviet servicemen are still alive. Unofficial Afghan sources report that only 40 of them are on Afghan territory and almost 60 are in Pakistan. Our competent organizations believe that another 14 are in Iran. After the Congress of USSR People's Deputies sharply condemned our country's participation in the Afghan war and declared an amnesty for all people without exception who had committed crimes during it, there were no remaining obstacles to our fellow citizens' return. Not that anyone is insisting that absolutely everyone return.

"If someone has started up a family abroad," the deputy said, "and has children and a job, and if the other country has become his second motherland—so be it. He need only inform his parents, so that they know of this decision and are able to meet with their children and grandchildren.... But there are also those who have remained true to their oath to the end, who are even now languishing in dreadful, inhuman conditions—they are living in holes in the ground or in dungeons, and their arms and legs are broken to prevent their escape.... It is the sacred duty not only of USSR citizens but also of the public and governments of other countries where human rights are respected—not just in words but in deeds—to release them along with other men who cannot return to the motherland and find freedom for various reasons."

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker assured the representatives of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for the Affairs of Internationalist Servicemen that he would be sure to give the letter to President George Bush. He recalled that he had already met once with "afgantsy" [Soviet veterans of the Afghanistan War] and that the United States is giving and will be pleased to continue giving comprehensive assistance in securing the freedom of Soviet prisoners of war.

It must be remembered, however, that not even the United States has infinite potential. The United States cannot influence all groupings of the armed Afghan resistance, especially those in Iran. The U.S. dialogue with that country has been broken off, but there is a possibility of cooperating with Pakistan, and the United States will try to take advantage of it. The secretary of state also promised that the U.S. special services would help resolve the problem of Soviet prisoners of war and would cooperate with our special services.

At the same time, however, he emphasized that the release of Soviet prisoners of war is part of the wider problem of ending combat operations on Afghan soil, which the United States and the USSR are trying to resolve. They are now working on a joint statement on Afghanistan which will speak of stopping all military aid to the sides involved in the conflict. Moreover, the United States is ready to reach agreement with the Soviet Union on the date for ending such aid.

James Baker said: "Unfortunately, the Soviet side is not yet ready to set this specific date."

Soviet Trade Mission in U.S. Holds Conference

PM1108183591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Aug 91 First Edition p 4

["Own Information" report: "Discussion at Trade Mission"]

[Text] Representatives of Soviet and U.S. business circles discussed opportunities for developing ties in commercial, industrial, banking, and technological exchange at the USSR's trade mission in Washington.

The conference, organized by the USSR's trade mission in the United States, "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga," and International Marketing Services Limited, considered questions of implementing international agreements in the sphere of trade and economic cooperation and also in the publishing work of educational programs. Proposals and plans were analyzed and new areas for Soviet-U.S. business relations outlined.

Observer Views Revised U.S. Military Strategy

PM0908160391 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Aug 91 Second Edition p 4

["My Opinion" by PRAVDA political observer Tomas Kolesnichenko: "Allies Tomorrow?"]

[Text] Needless to say, there is no point in accusing U.S. leaders of plagiarism but, note, some of their statements (President Bush reiterated this several times, for instance, during the Moscow summit meeting) begin just like many PRAVDA leaders 30 years ago: "We're living in surprising times...."

Well, every time is surprising in its own way, we could hardly expect it to be otherwise. But something that was at one time a journalistic cliche today reflects quite considerably the qualitatively new situation that has developed in the international arena.

U.S. Defense Secretary Cheney said in Washington that "we are living in truly surprising times," referring to the "fundamental changes" that have taken place in the world over the last two years. Cheney's remark is extremely important for us. And the conclusions that the U.S. defense secretary drew are even more so. It does, after all, effectively concern a question that was the center of debate within our society: How are we to assess the changes in Eastern Europe, the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact, the transition of the former "socialist states" to a new status, and so on.

This relates to those who regard such changes virtually as the "defeat of the USSR in World War III." How many accusations have been leveled at the policy of the new thinking, which has, supposedly, weakened our security, depriving us, moreover, of military parity with the West.

The main argument here was and still is the quibbling over the United States and NATO. People say, they are not disarming over there but are, on the contrary, using the situation to build up their military arsenals.

Cheney's latest statement introduces some clarity into this debate. The changes in Eastern Europe, he said, "have had a tremendous effect on the activity of the U.S. defense department itself. At present we are making the most wide-ranging and radical changes to U.S. military positions in the world and to our military strategy than at any other time in the last 40 years."

Thus, here is the first conclusion: The policy of new thinking is a "two-way street." The United States is responding to the new situation, and how! It is, to all intents and purposes, changing its entire strategy. According, once again, to Cheney, "all the hypotheses about a conflict that might provoke an exchange of nuclear attacks and lead to global war within a very short time have now become outdated."

Hence the following conclusion: If the danger of a global nuclear conflict is receding into the background, this should be followed by most impressive cuts in levels of arms and hence in military spending. Incidentally, this is already happening. The United States has begun to cut real military spending by three percent per year on average and in Fiscal 1996 it may total 3.6 percent of GNP, that is, the lowest level since the period that preceded World War II. I would advise those people in our country who are getting in a flap about the USSR's "unilateral disarmament" to compare these figures with the ratio of our military spending to our GNP and calm down a bit.

I think that the review of U.S. military strategy is only beginning and that it is enabling us to draw our own far-reaching conclusions. For instance, the United States is clearly giving up its cumbersome, costly army and laying the emphasis on the principle of so-called "forward basing" and "rapid reaction force." At present the first does not suit us at all if, of course, you do not consider the possibility of joint alliance-partnership actions. That sounds fantastic today, but it may become reality tomorrow. While pointing out that the United States and the USSR "are not ready to fight side by side," that same Cheney said that "military ties between our two countries are as good as they were immediately after World War II."

As for a mobile "rapid reaction" force equipped with progressive technology, life itself from the example of the Gulf war, has shown the tremendous advantages of this force.

Now to the main conclusion: The political changes in the world arena have also brought about military-strategic changes. It is not a question of one "camp's" having the edge over the other but of a totally new situation emerging where, instead of confrontation, the USSR and the United States are discovering a way to cooperate.

This is it: Yesterday's "cold war" adversaries are today's partners. And tomorrow?

Tomorrow—allies.

'Major Reorganization' of Nuclear Forces Cited

PM0908115591 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Aug 91 First Edition p 5

["Own Information"-TASS report under the "Foreign Military Chronicle" rubric: "Reorganization Ahead"]

[Text] At Offutt U.S. airbase (Nebraska), the leadership of the SAC [Strategic Air Command] has disseminated a statement on an upcoming major reorganization of the U.S. nuclear forces. As the document points out, the changes to SAC's structure and mission were approved by General M. McPeak, chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force. They propose changing the basic functions and tasks of SAC. One of the command's main missions will now be to provide support for U.S. conventional armed forces in conflicts not involving the use of nuclear weapons.

China

General Chi Haotian Continues Official Visit

Visits Sevastopol

LD0908225591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1522 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By UKRINFORM-TASS correspondent Mikhail Stetsyuk]

[Text] Sevastopol, 9 Aug (TASS)—Colonel General Chi Haotian, chief of staff of China's People's Liberation Army, today visited the main base of the Black Sea Fleet and met with the fleet commander, Admiral Mikhail Khronopulo, as part of his official visit to the Soviet Union.

The Chinese general visited the large antisubmarine warfare ship "Azov," examined the "Defense of Sevastopol in 1854-55" panorama, the "Storming of Sapun mountain on 7 May 1944", and laid a wreath at the obelisk of glory on Sapun mountain.

Visits Kiev, Praises Tanks

OW1208011691 Moscow Radio Moscow in Mandarin 1000 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] After visiting the heroic city of Sevastopol, the base for the Black Sea Fleet, Chi Haotian, chief of the general staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army [PLA], arrived in Kiev, Ukraine on 10 August. Chi Haotian visited military academies under the Kiev Military Region. During the visit the chief of the PLA general staff spoke highly of the fighting and political quality of the tank forces in the region. Chi Haotian arrived in Leningrad on the same day.

Tours Leningrad

LD1108163891 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1500 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Chi Haotian, chief of staff of the People's Liberation Army of China, who is paying an official visit to our country, met Colonel General Samsonov, commander of Leningrad military district. He then then toured the city.

Moscow Radio Comments

OW1108065191 Moscow Radio Moscow in Mandarin 1000 GMT 10 Aug 91

[From the "On the Road to Friendship and Cooperation" program]

[Text] Now let us talk about the Defense Ministry delegation's visit to the Soviet Union which is being led by General Chi Haotian, chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

Welcoming the Chinese defense ministry delegation at the airport, General Moiseyev, chief of the Soviet Armed Forces General Staff, said: The Chinese military delegation's visit, led by the chief of the General Staff of the Chinese PLA, is the first of its kind in the history of the Soviet Union. The past obstacles between the two countries have been overcome, and normal ties between the two countries' armed forces will develop smoothly.

Minister of Defense Marshal Yazov received General Chi Haotian. During a cordial and friendly conversation, both sides discussed the relevant political and military situation in the world; the ways to advance cooperation between China and the Soviet Union, including military cooperation; and the question of stability and security in the Asia-Pacific region. On 7 August, Soviet Vice President Yanayev received Chi Haotian at the Kremlin. They discussed a wide range of questions related to Soviet-Chinese relations, including military cooperation, during a friendly conversation.

Army General Moiseyev and General Chi Haotian exchanged views on regional security, disarmament progress, and prospects for cooperation between the armed forces of the Soviet Union and China.

Chi Haotian has been visiting various places inside the Soviet Union over the past few days. He arrived in the heroic city of Volgograd on 8 August. He was welcomed at the airport by Major General (Zhilnis), chief of staff of the Northern Caucasus Military District. The Chinese military leader placed wreaths at the martyrs monument in the city, viewed the panoramic picture depicting the campaign of Stalingrad, and visited memorial sites at (Namayev) port. The Chinese delegation also visited the heroic cities of Kiev and Sevastopol. General Chi Haotian also plans to visit the heroic city of Leningrad.

On the first day of his visit to the Soviet Union, our reporter asked Chief of General Staff Chi Haotian about his impressions. He replied:

[Begin Chi Haotian recording] Our visit has left us with a very good impression. We have longed to visit the Soviet Union since our youth, and today our wish has come true. We were very excited when we saw our great master, Comrade Lenin. [as heard] It was he who lighted the flame of revolution and paved the way for our future. If it hadn't been for the martyrs, we would not be where we are today. Therefore, we must bear in mind Lenin's teachings: To forget the past is tantamount to betrayal. We will remember the martyrs forever and will never forget their magnificent exploits in establishing the world's first socialist republic. Thank you, comrades. [end recording]

Commenting on Chief of General Staff Chi Haotian's visit to the Soviet Union, Army General Moiseyev, chief of general staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, told our reporter: Reform has increased China's economic strength. China has a population of more than 1 billion people, and it can play a very important role in the world.

Moiseyev said: Our Armed Forces are not militarists. Our mission is to defend the nation's interests, and we think the mission of other countries' armed forces is also to defend their national interests. We believe that our meeting with the Chinese comrades today, along with the previous meetings, will eliminate many problems which used to worry our two countries in the past.

Army General Moiseyev said:

[Begin Moiseyev recording in Russian, fading into Mandarin translation] We have never regarded the other side of the Amur River as our enemy. We are clearly aware that the Chinese people have always been our friendly and harmonious neighbors. The Amur River should be a river of friendship forever. This is the foundation for the relations between our two countries. [end recording]

Northeast Asia

RSFSR's Silayev Postpones Visit to Japan

OW0908150891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An IF [INTERFAX] correspondent has learned from reliable sources that the visit by Mr. Ivan Silayev, Russian prime minister, to Japan scheduled for August 17 to 24 has been postponed for an indefinite period. The reason is that he has to attend the signing of the Union treaty on August 20 as chairman of the Russian Council of Ministers.

Comments on Northern Territories

OW1008022191 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Report on interview with Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, RSFSR, Prime Minister Ivan Silayev by NHK Moscow correspondent Kobayashi—recorded]

[Text] In an exclusive interview with NHK, RSFSR Prime Minister Silayev, who is scheduled to make an official visit to Japan on 21 August, said that he would take advantage of his upcoming visit and work vigorously to settle the Northern Territories issue.

[Begin Silayev recording in Russian with Japanese subtitles] We cannot leave the solution of the territories issue to our next generation. My upcoming visit to Japan will serve to settle this issue, and I have no intention of avoiding discussions on the subject during my stay in Japan. [end recording]

In the interview, Premier Silayev also said that he was ready to suggest ways of finding mutual concessions during his visit. The republic's premier thus indicated that he would work vigorously to resolve the Northern Territories issue. It is believed that he made these remarks with the intention of obtaining large-scale Japanese economic aid for his republic, while bypassing the Gorbachev government. He stressed that the Russian Republic, as a sovereign state, has the initiative to settle the Northern Territories issue. Premier Silayev will visit Japan on 21 August, and he is scheduled to tour Tokyo, Oita Prefecture, and Sapporo.

Japanese Visit POW Graves Near Khabarovsk

OW0908135191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In the port town of Vanino near Khabarovsk, a group of Japanese has visited the cemetery where imprisoned soldiers and officers from the Kwantung Army who died after the last war were buried. The visitors prayed and put up a memorial token from the Association of Former Prisoners of War.

The decision to allow relatives of Japanese war prisoners who died on Soviet territory to visit their graves was taken after the Soviet-Japanese summit in Tokyo last spring.

According to Japanese sources, some 60,000 Japanese war prisoners died on Soviet territory, espeacially in the Far East, after the war.

'Emergency' Conditions at Mongolian Power Plants

LD1108182591 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1500 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] As part of the daily planned stoppage of the Ulaanbaatar Number Four central heating and power plant from 0800 to 2200 local time, the power supply is switched off according to a special schedule. The plant is one of the largest in Mongolia.

The majority of the Mongolian capital is often in darkness. According to ARDYN ERKH, a local newspaper, the interruptions to the power supply will continue until mid-August. The newspaper carried an interview with (?Matkhishigan), director of Mongolia's central energy system, who complains about the non-delivery of spare parts and equipment from the Soviet Union because of the lack of hard currency in Mongolia to pay for them.

Emergency operating conditions have been in force at Mongolia's power plants since 25 July.

ROK Assembly Hears Gorbachev KAL-007 Letter

PM0908140791 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Aug 91 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "USSR President's Letter"]

[Text] New York, 8 Aug—USSR President M.S. Gorbachev's letter to the families of the Koreans who died on flight KAL-007 on 1 September 1983 over Sakhalin

was read today at a plenary sitting of the ROK's National Assembly by Yu Chon-Ha, deputy foreign minister.

He said that the letter mentions allowing the relatives of the victims to visit the Soviet Union for a memorial service 1 September.

Parliamentarians demanded that the government send an official delegation to Sakhalin to conduct an independent investigation into the incident. They also urged the Soviet side to pay the appropriate compensation to the relatives of those who died.

According to an AP report from Seoul, the contents of the Soviet leader's message have also been relayed to the families of the 110 South Koreans who were aboard the aircraft.

ROK To Discuss Friendship Treaty at UN

LD1208040191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0200 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Oleg Polovko]

[Text] Pyongyang, 12 Aug (TASS)—The YONHAP NEWS AGENCY, citing South Korean Government sources, reports from Seoul today that the Soviet Union and the Republic of Korea intend to discuss the conclusion of a treaty on good-neighborliness and cooperation between the two states at the upcoming session of the UN General Assembly.

USSR Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh and Yi Sang-ok, head of the South Korean foreign political department, will acquaint one another with their countries' positions on the signing of the treaty, which was proposed by USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev.

In South Korea it is hoped that the future treaty will correspond to the spirit of the declaration the two leaders signed during South Korean President No Tae-u's visit to the Soviet Union in December of last year.

TASS Previews DPRK, ROK UN Membership

LD0908215891 Moscow TASS in English 1924 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By Askold Birukov, TASS political news analyst]

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—As it should have been expected, the U.N. Security Council, considering the applications of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea for the entry to the United Nations, unanimously recommended on Thursday that the U.N. General Assembly grant U.N. membership to both countries. There are no doubts that they will be admitted into the United Nations in September.

The chairman of the Security Council meeting said that the decision is truly historic. This is really so as one of the last chapters of the cold war is running to a close. This was indicated also by the fact that all participants in the meeting, including permanent members of the Security Council unanimously voted in favour of their admission into the UNO. And not so long ago there was no unanimity on this matter.

New political thinking is gaining ground. It spread to the eastern rimlands of the Eurasian continent.

It can be expected that becoming fell-fledged members of the community of nations, the DPRK and the Republic of Korea, together with other countries, will exert every effort to ease the military-political tension in the Korean peninsula and will normalise relations between themselves and with other countries.

Admitting the two Korean states into the United Nations, the world community has a right to hope that they will embark without delay on the work to strengthen mutual confidence and remove the obstacles on the road to peaceful unification. In Pyongyang and Seoul proposals were made which, given goodwill and flexibility, could serve as a good basis for that.

On the other hand, the strengthening of mutual confidence between the North and South of Korea could be extremely helpful in solving the problem of military opposition in the peninsula. It is an open secret that the peninsula is oversaturated with arms. Cutting them to the level of reasonable sufficiency for defence would supplement efforts of other countries on this road.

Pyongyang's initiative to create a nuclear free zone in the Korean peninsula merits special attention. Going by Seoul's reaction, the two countries may soon begin to discuss it.

The U.N. membership will enable the two countries to enhance the effectivity of that organisation and to consolidate peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Moscow Radio Sees 'Progress' in Sino-SRV Talks

BK0908134391 Moscow Radio Moscow in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Text] From 8 to 10 August, the deputy foreign ministerial Sino-Vietnamese talks will be held in Beijing. The settlement of the Cambodian issue and the development of Sino-Vietnamese relations are on the agenda. The Moscow radio station commentator has made the following observations:

Progress in both directions has now been clearly noted. If speaking of Cambodia alone, it can be stressed that this issue is no longer an obstacle on the path of normalizing Sino-Vietnamese relations. This does not mean, however, that Hanoi and Beijing share identical stands. Although disagreement still exists, its extent cannot be compared to its previous level. This is a logical result of the two countries' coordinated activities in settling the

Cambodian issue, a process which each side necessarily made concessions to the other. Meanwhile, other countries that have been involved in the Cambodian conflict to diferent extents have shown more flexible attitudes.

Speaking of Sino-Vietnamese relations, one might have the impression that their long-standing friendship and neighborliness are being restored. This is demonstrated by each side's expression of goodwill toward the other, as in the greetings from General Secretary Jiang Zemin of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee to Mr. Do Muoi, recently elected General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee.

Observers say the above message was sent, even though the interparty relations of Beijing and Hanoi have not been restored. This nonetheless did not impede the high ranking Vietnamese leaders' unofficial visits to the Chinese capital in September of last year. Observers say this very event indicates that normalization has been achieved.

It should be noted that, following this event, the foreign press has reported on the unofficial visits of party activists to China and statements on Vietnam several times. All the operations prior to the Sino-Vietnamese deputy foreign ministerial talks had been made for more than two years, with uninterrupted dialogue during this period. At the same time, trade has accelerated between the two sides.

It is forecast that the Sino-Vietnamese talks held on 8 August in Beijing will mark a new and progressive step towards normalizing relations, and this also means an improvement of the political atmosphere in the region as a whole.

Dzasokhov Terms ASEAN Relations 'Stable'

LD0908230491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1552 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Ryabikin]

[Text] Moscow, 9 Aug (TASS)—Aleksandr Dzasokhov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet International Affairs Committee, has expressed the view that relations between the Soviet Union and the ASEAN countries, Australia, and New Zealand are stable. He held a meeting here today with the ambassadors and representatives of those countries' diplomatic missions, at their request. The committee chairman said that the fact that parliamentary delegations will hold a series of reciprocal visits over the next two months is additional evidence for the stability of their relations.

Answering questions from participants in the meeting, Aleksandr Dzasokhov discussed relations between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Supreme Soviets of the Union Republics, their cooperation and their interaction, especially in the sphere of international ties. There was an exchange of views on a broad range of questions pertaining to the USSR's policies in the Asian-Pacific region.

The diplomatic mission heads expressed the hope that disarmament processes, including the closure of military bases, would be developed further in the Asian-Pacific region.

Near East & South Asia

Afghan Mojahedin Release Soviet Prisoner of War

LD1208082791 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Excerpt] A Soviet prisoner of war has been handed over to a Soviet representative in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, today. He is Qurban Ali Tashrifov of Tajikistan. He was captured by the Mojahedin in the western province of Herat four or five years ago. Over 300 Soviet servicemen were registered as missing during the 10 years of Soviet participation in the Afghan war. [passage omitted]

Rebels Seek Colleagues' Release

LD1208090791 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0830 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] The Afghan Mojahedin have released Qurban ali Tashrifov, a Soviet POW, today. He is 25 years old, comes from Tajikistan, and was captured in Afghanistan eight years ago. Tashrifov was handed over to Kozyrev, the Soviet special envoy, who is now in the Pakistani capital. In response, the Mojahedin hope the Afghan Government will release 25 of their colleagues who are in Kabul prisons. According to their spokesman, five of them have already been released.

Kozyrev-led Delegation Arrives in Islamabad

To Discuss Afghan Solution

LD1108074991 Moscow TASS in English 0731 GMT 11 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondents Vladislav Legantsov and Nikolay Semenenko]

[Text] Islamabad August 11 TASS—A delegation from the Soviet Foreign Ministry led by Ambassador at Large Nikolay Kozyrev today arrived here to discuss issues pertaining to a peace settlement of the Afghan problem.

During their stay in Islamabad, the Soviet representatives will meet General Secretary of the Pakistani Foreign Ministry Akram Zaki and hold talks with Foreign Ministry Secretary Shekharyar Khan. The delegation is expected to be received by Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

The delegation's visit is a followup on the Soviet-Pakistani dialogue on the Afghan issue. A top-ranking

delegation from the Pakistani Foreign Ministry visited Moscow on a similar mission in May 1991.

Radio Previews Talks

LD1008105791 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1730 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Officials in Islamabad are awaiting the arrival of a delegation from the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs led by special envoy Nikolay Kozyrev. The delegation is scheduled to arrive in Pakistan on 11 August. It will hold two days of talks with officials from the foreign policy department and will be received by the president and the prime minister of Pakistan. The Afghan problem will be discussed. Rustam Goliulin, our correspondent in Islamabad, reports:

[Goliulin] Following the three-party meeting, which took place 29-30 July in Islamabad and which was attended by the leaders of almost all the organizations of Afghan refugees living on the territory of Pakistan and Iran, and also by the Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Secretary General of the Pakistani Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the talks with the Soviet delegation are considered here to be an exceptionally important step in the search for a political solution to the Afghan problem, which has been stagnant for the past one to two years.

This situation has been changed for a variety of reasons, mainly because Islamabad has come to understand that, in spite of some successful mujahidin operations, it is impossible to solve this problem through military means. The rapid decrease in aid from the West and the Arab countries has contributed to Islamabad's change of heart. This has put Pakistan in the position of a country which will soon have to bear the entire burden of supporting an army of three million refugees. No matter how strange it may seem, the successes at the front forced the Afghan opposition leaders to come to the negotiating table. Mangal, representative of the Gulbuddin Hekmatyar group based in Pakistan, told me: We can now speak on equal grounds.

Journalists view the coming talks with the Soviet delegation with partial [word indistinct] pessimism. They may become a repeat of the talks which took place in Geneva during the last (?ten) years where half of the results still remain on paper. A Pakistan Foreign Ministry representative was more optimistic when he said: We are not expecting a decisive breakthrough in solving the Afghan problem from the meeting with our Soviet colleagues. The significance of the Soviet delegation's visit is that it gives new impetus to the two countries' diplomatic efforts which concentrate on the search for a solution to the problem.

DFLP's Hawatimah Comments on Peace Talks

LD1108192491 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Statement by Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, DFLP, at the Mar Ilyas Palestinian refugee camp in West Beirut; date not given; from the "Vremya" newscast—recorded, in Arabic with superimposed translation into Russian]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] First of all, we hope that the conference will take place despite various hindrances. In our opinion, the understandings reached at the recent Soviet-American summit in Moscow will be a great help, as they are opening up a real path toward achieving a just Near East settlement and a solution for the Palestinian problem.

We are concerned that the Palestinian representation at the conference still has not been clarified. We hope that the Soviet Union and the United States will make extra efforts to remove this obstacle. Which particular Palestinians are to sit at the conference table is for the Palestine Liberation Organisation to decide. We are also concerned about Israel's obstinate refusal to put an end to the construction of settlements in the Occupied Territories, which simply is not in line with the upcoming conference's goals.

We sincerely hope that the conference will take place within the framework of of international legality and on the basis of resolutions previously adopted by the United Nations.

'Sokhut' Chairman on Israeli, USSR Relations

OW1008044691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] During a press conference in Moscow, the chairman of the Executive committe for the International Zionist Organisation and Jewish agency "Sokhut" in Israel, Simkha Dinitz, said, "In practice diplomatic relations already exist between Israel and the USSR, and it will not be long before they are officially revived." Dinitz was by this alluding to the meetings he had had with Soviet officials during his official visit to the USSR.

At the same time Dinitz was unable to say how soon relations would be revived. "I do not think that the USSR has decided yet," he said.

Dinitz quoted one Soviet high-ranking official, who wishes to remain anonymous, "The USSR should not link success in the Middle East peace process with the condition of reviving diplomatic relations"

As regards the imigration of Soviet Jews to Israel, Dinitz mentioned that 10,400 people left in July, that makes 200-250 people every day. This figure is expected to rise to 400 people per day in August. The peak is predicted for October and September, when more than 50,000 people are expected to leave the USSR for Israel.

Article Terms Israeli Position Obstacle to Peace

91UF1055A Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Aug 91 First Edition p 5

[Article by V. Afanasyev: "Occupation and Ambitions: Tel Aviv Is Hindering PLO Participation in a Peace Conference"]

[Text] On 5 August, the Israeli Cabinet confirmed Israel's previous statement concerning its participation in an international conference. It is assumed that the conference will take place this October. Sixteen ministers voted in support of it, and three voted against. It is true that there were particular and very material reservations, which in our opinion could reduce all the efforts which have been exerted to nothing.

Tel Aviv's position was summarized by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in a recent interview with the French Antenne-2 television company, calling it diktat. Israel's demands, according to the Palestinian leader, amount to the following: No to the presence of the PLO, no to self-determination for the Palestinian people, no to an independent Palestinian state, no to the participation in the conference of representatives from Jerusalem.

East Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights were captured by Israel in 1967 and subsequently were officially annexed by the state. But the international community in the shape of the United Nations has not recognized these illicit actions of Tel Aviv and demands compliance with its resolutions on the departure of Israeli forces from the occupied territories. "Peace is impossible without the Palestinians," 'Arafat declared in his interview. "We demand international guarantees and compliance with UN resolutions."

An ABC correspondent has reported from Tel Aviv that the cabinet decided at its meeting that, if the conditions for the Palestinian delegation's formation are ignored, Israel will refuse to participate in the peace conference.

Peace in the Near East, however, cannot be lasting and effective until Tel Aviv has renounced its expansionist policy and the occupation of Arab land, including, of course, the annexation of Jerusalem.

It is necessary to take advantage of any opportunity for the peaceful resolution of disputes and conflicts, but, seeing as the UN Security Council voted for military sanctions last year virtually against Iraq, which had occupied Kuwait, which made Iraq leave Kuwait, why is the international community and the UN Security Council still tolerating the occupation of Arab land and its unconcealed annexation by Tel Aviv and, more, the existence of nuclear weapons in Israel, whose state borders, incidentally, have not yet been established.

The PLO has recognized Israel and is prepared to sit down with it at the negotiating table, given certain conditions, of course. Officially, however, Tel Aviv does not want to even hear about the participation of representatives of the PLO, which is recognized by the United Nations as the sole and legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

The whole world is expecting results from the conference, but if we are to go by today's situation, its success is highly problematical, primarily due to Tel Aviv's reluctance to understand that, were the international community to agree to its unlawful expansionist ambitions, this would open the way to the seizure with impunity of others' territory by any other state in any other part of the world.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Continues Visit

Meets ANC's Mandela

LD0808212591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2029 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Text] Johannesburg, 8 Aug (TASS)— V.D. Nikolayenko, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, met Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Congress [ANC] of South Africa, here today. At the USSR president's instruction, he was given a verbal message from M.S. Gorbachev which confirmed an invitation for the ANC leader to visit the Soviet Union. Mandela gratefully received the message and emphasized that he highly values the Soviet Union's traditional support for the just cause of the South African people and would personally like to express his gratitude to President Mikhail Gorbachev and the Soviet people in the course of his forthcoming visit to Moscow.

During the amicable discussion, there was an exchange of views on the processes currently taking place in the Soviet Union and South Africa. At the same time, they shared the view that there is no sensible alternative to a political settlement in South Africa and that it is necessary to put an end to violence and to conduct a thorough policy directed toward the complete elimination of apartheid in order to reach this goal. Mandela emphasized the ANC's readiness in principle to resume the talks.

The Soviet representative informed Mandela about the efforts being undertaken by the Soviet Union to strengthen the positive elements which have been observed in international developments over recent years, including those that apply to the African continent, and also about the steps the USSR is taking to give a greater impulse to its equal and mutually beneficial relations with the countries of Africa.

Departs for Home

LD1108190691 Moscow TASS in English 1854 GMT 11 Aug 91

[By TASS special correspondent Sergey Kulik]

[Text] Pretoria August 11 TASS—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Valeriy Nikolayenko ended his visit to South Africa and left for home on Sunday.

During the five day visit, the Soviet official had talks with ANC [African National Congress] President Nelson Mandela, South Africa's Foreign Minister Roelof Botha and other government members.

Nikolayenko held numerous meetings in Johannesburg and Pretoria with members of the South African business community and mass media people.

The visit of the Soviet official was given extensive coverage in the local press.

Commentary on 'Sensational' Visit

MB1008123491 Moscow Radio Moscow in Afrikaans 1700 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Aleksandr Fedorov commentary—read by announcer]

[Text] Listeners are probably aware that Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Valeriy Nikolayenko is currently visiting South Africa. Judging from reports, his program there is fairly full. Aleksandr Fedovor comments:

Mr. Nikolayenko's visit has been described in South Africa as a sensational event. I believe that the only unusual aspect of the visit is the fact that this is the first time in three decades that such a high-ranking Soviet diplomat has visited South Africa. [words indistinct] foreign minister held talks.

The outcome of these talks are well known. First there was the settlement in southwest Africa which led to Namibia's independence and the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. In my opinion, this laid the foundation for the Soviet deputy foreign minister's current visit to South Africa.

In an interview with South African journalists, Mr. Nikolayenko declared that the Soviet Union has a positive view of the steps taken by the South African Government to end apartheid, as well as the African National Congress' constructive approach towards national reconciliation.

Events in South Africa are being followed attentively and, I would add, sympathetically, in the USSR. Regardless of how negative the reaction in South Africa was towards the USSR's support to the country's national liberation movements, all must concede that it was not part of Moscow's expansionist policy.

International support for apartheid's opponents brought the De Klerk government and the African National Congress closer to dialogue. This dialogue serves not only the interests of the country's blacks but also of the whites, who had long believed that the bloody reprisal described in Nadine Gordimer's novel, "July's People," was prophetic.

One cannot be influenced by old stereotypes. That would be simplifying the Soviet Union's attitude towards South Africa. Opponents of contact base their reasoning on relatively banal ideas. They claim that the USSR's economic problems forced it to start reaching out toward South Africa. In the first place, South Africa can hardly be said to be experiencing an economic upswing. Second, no one in the USSR is planning to force cooperation down South Africa's throat simply to ensure continued change.

The best explanation of the goal behind the contacts was given by South African Foreign Minister Mr. Pik Botha. He said he had studied Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's recent television address on the Unity Treaty very closely, and he had found similarities between the problems facing the two countries. Mr. Botha said the Soviet experience could be useful to South Africans. The South African experience, particularly its successes in the field of medicine and mining, could also be useful to the USSR.

I would like to add, writes Aleksandr Fedorov, that we journalists would also like to promote contacts between our two countries so that South Africans would not have to depend on dusty old files at Stellenbosch University when seeking information on the USSR. In turn, we in the USSR would also be able to gain first-hand information about South Africa.

It is only human to believe in a better future, and one would hope that the stumbling blocks which prevent the realization of our dreams can be removed.

Article Reviews 'Problem of Violence' in RSA

91UF1053A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Aug 91 First Edition p 3

[Article by V. Golubev: "South Africa: 'Rocking the Boat' Is Dangerous"]

[Text] E. Williams, national secretary of the South African Labor Party, attempted to explain the problem of violence, which people in South Africa resort to in order to score political points, as follows: "Violence in our country and in Africa as a whole has always been part of the political mechanism," representing "a prop of the authorities and a component of discipline. It is a form of the demonstration of power and authority... There are no clashes in Cape Province. They are occurring where the ANC [African National Congress] and Inkatha are rivals. This is not an ethnic but a political conflict. People are forced to adapt simply to survive. There are quite a few people in Johannesburg who pay dues to both the ANC and Inkatha so they can show the appropriate membership card if need be."

Indeed, the present bloody conflict between the blacks—albeit deeply rooted in the history of tribal enmity and the practice of the apartheid system which was supported precisely by violence and intimidation—primarily has a concealed political meaning. After all, the ANC is a

multiracial organization whose members include not only the predominant Xhosa nationality but also representatives of the white community and the Zulu nationality. In turn, the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), uniting predominantly Zulus, has already declared itself a multiracial organization, which includes over 100,000 whites in its membership. The latter, as G. Woods, director of the Inkatha Institute, declared, "have recognized the inevitability of blacks' involvement in the running of the country but are put off by the 'leftism' of ANC policy, while the program of Inkatha leader M. Buthelezi, on the other hand, is attractive to them because it adheres to capitalism and private property."

But the fact that the Zulus have taken to arms is a testimony to the mistakes of the ANC leadership, which attempted to officially form an ANC-NP (National Party) combination to the detriment of the IFP's interests. In April, ANC leader N. Mandela called the Zulu Inkatha a small-scale political grouping which could not lay claim—with the ANC and the government—to the formation of a trio of the main participants in a peace settlement (and this despite the fact that the Zulus are far superior in numbers to the Xhosa). Such statements—along with the crimes perpetrated by young members of the ANC who are beyond the leadership's control that are barely distinguishable from those perpetrated by the Zulu "impi" detachments—are are helping "rock the boat" which is being rowed by the oarsmen of all the country's political forces, each working with his own manageable oar.

The ANC's effort to solve the "colossal economic imbalance by way of transferring part of the national resources to the Africans" has played a considerable role in this rocking. This policy is also running into opposition from the far-right ANC circles which are trying to preserve their apartheid advantages. The ANC policy creating "self-defense squads" based on its own Umkhonto we Sizwe military wing has alerted the whites as well as IFP supporters. In addition, the ANC's insufficient patience in the negotiating process is, in addition to everything else, striking at President de Klerk personally, who has already abolished all the main laws which formed the basis for apartheid. This by no means signifies that the president himself is taking no part in the dangerous "rocking."

Primarily, de Klerk believes, as AP testifies, that "the whites should have sufficient control over any future government of the country so they are able to defend their interests." He rejects the idea of a "redistribution of national wealth and is stubbornly unwilling to take specific steps to help the blacks." N. Basson, a former major in the South African Defense Force (SADF), in particular, accused his government of playing a double game regarding the ANC and of "inciting violence among blacks and using the Army to this end."

The facts testify that officers of military intelligence, the security forces, the police, and the SADF—together with extremists from far-right groupings constituting a so-called "third force"—are inciting and participating in the fratricidal strife in the black community on Inkatha's side. Many witnesses point out that the police are continuing to indulge Zulu militants in attacks on ANC supporters, primarily by making transport available to the former for ferrying their squads. In order to open an IFP branch and simultaneously intimidate the inhabitants, 4,000 Zulu fighters burst into the Bekkersdaal community in May. They opened fire, the police took cover and, subsequently, after emerging from their vans, aimed their fire at...ANC supporters.

South Africa's Public Social Research Agency believes that the IFP instigated the majority of the recent clashes. Of the 146 instances of violence analyzed, the IFP's guilt was established in 96 cases, while the ANC was found guilty in not more than 10 cases. In South African writer A. Brink's opinion, it is M. Buthelezi who is performing a "destructive role" and is supported "by blackmail and violence." Special services officials, who are doing considerably more than "De Klerk approves of," have helped him become a destructive force. Incidentally, the recent exposures published by the South African press have confirmed this as clearly as can be. It transpires that government authorities have made payments to Inkatha from a special fund of several hundred thousand dollars. These funds that have enabled it to pursue such an extremist policy fraught with bloody clashes.

If the violence unfolds, its waves will undoubtedly engulf South Africa's future. "Thanks to the final defeat of apartheid," AP emphasizes, "South Africans are obliged to turn their forcibly divided country into a multiracial democracy. Otherwise, they run the risk of wallowing in a mire of chaos."

East Europe

Government Opposes 'Foreign Troops' in Yugoslavia

OW0908215591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1626 GMT 9 Aug 91

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" program; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Soviet Union is against having a "foreign military factor" in Yugoslavia. The Soviet Union goes on the premises that the crisis in that country should be decided not from sending in foreign troops—such as the "blue helmets" of the U.N., or the "forces of peace" from Western European nations. This position was expressed in the Statement of the Soviet Government on the 6th of August, and it was confirmed today, the 9th of August, in the Third European Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where a "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent was standing by.

At this point, the Soviet Union objects to an examination of the Yugoslavian question by the U.N. Security Council. Some of the government members of the EC are

leaning towards such an examination since the failure of the mediating efforts of the "Troika" mission to Yugoslavia, which was made up of the foreign ministers from Holland, Luxemburg, and Portugal. An examination of the situation in Yugoslavia within the walls of the U.N. could lead to the decision to send troops there, which Moscow does not want to agree with.

From discussions with diplomats, the impression is being formed that the position of the USSR in relation to the events in Yugoslavia is decided primarily by the processes which are taking place in the Soviet Union itself. The Soviet Union is in favor of the unity and territorial unity of Yugoslavia, and believes that Yugoslavian problems should be solved, first and foremost by the Yugoslavians themselves, through peaceful dialogue. At the same time, the USSR fears the collapse of the Yugoslavian federation,and sending foreign troops there. The Soviet Union especially wants to avoid setting a precedent in European and world practice, which could in the future come back against itself.

Yugoslav Talks View Economic, Financial Ties

PM0908085891 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 Aug 91 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Talks Held"]

[Text] USSR First Deputy Prime Minister V.M. Velichko met with A. Mitrovic, vice president of the Federal Executive Council of the SFRY Federal Assembly on 7 August.

The talks thoroughly discussed the state of Soviet-Yugoslav economic cooperation, and specific measures were defined to implement the accords reached at the 1-2 August Moscow meeting between the USSR and SFRY heads of government.

A bilateral document creating a financial mechanism aimed at the efficient fulfillment of mutual commitments in the sphere of foreign economic ties was agreed on and signed by representatives of the two countries' central banks.

A. Mitrovic expressed satisfaction with and profound appreciation for the Soviet Government's appeal concerning the events taking place in Yugoslavia and for its call for resolving the problems that have arisen through Yugoslavia's own efforts, peacefully, using democratic methods, and proceeding from the need to preserve the unity of the multinational Yugoslav state.

Foreign Ministry Criticizes Polish Media Claims

LD0908153191 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Rostislav Gertsev]

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman blasted recent attempts to undercut the Polish public's trust in the Soviet Union and in cooperation with this country, describing them as negative in nature and untenable in form and substance.

These attempts have been increasingly frequent in Polish media outlets lately in a bid to explain unfavourable tendencies in that country's economic development, including a production slump, with difficulties in bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

Commenting on these attempts in a TASS interview, the spokesman noted allegations by some Polish commentators that the USSR is "consciously" seeking to "economically punish" the Poles for their "democratic changes and market reforms" and frustrate or at least impede "the Polish system experiment".

He expressed regret that even some Polish officials also publicly blamed the USSR for Polish economic woes.

"The groundlessness of such claims is obvious," the spokesman said.

According to the Polish planning management centre, the share of 141 Polish factories, which used to export products mostly to former socialist countries, in national industrial output shrank from 5.9 per cent in the first half of 1990 to 3.9 per cent in the first six months of the current year.

Therefore, even the complete closure of all these factories would clearly not have been able to provoke the kind of recess that has been witnessed in Poland over the past two years, the spokesman said.

He agreed, however, that reduced Polish supplies to the USSR and payment difficulties between the two countries have had adverse effects on traditional exporters to the Soviet Union.

The spokesman recalled the June 23 decision by the Soviet Cabinet to provide better conditions for government-run enterprises and organisations to develop trade and economic relations with partners in former socialist countries in 1991.

The more complex issues of bilateral commercial and economic contacts were discussed in July during a meeting between Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Bikhodzhal Rakhimova and Polish Foreign Economic Cooperation Minister Dariusz Ledworowski. Talks are under way between a number of ministries in the two countries.

"What is needed to overcome problems that have arisen is not public accusations, but specific practical steps, and we, for our part, are taking them," the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Official Interviewed on Relations With Europe

91UF1057A Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Jul 91 First Edition p 1

[Interview with Vitaliy Zhurkin, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Europe Institute, by NOVOSTI correspondent Aleksey Borzenko in Bucharest; date not given; published under the "Russia and the World" rubric: "There Is a Basis for Cooperation"]

[Text] **Vitaliy Zhurkin, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Europe Institute represented the USSR at an international symposium on security in Eastern Europe which took place recently in Bucharest. During a recess between sessions, he answered questions posed by the NOVOSTI Agency correspondent at the request of ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA.**

[Borzenko] What role is the West offering the Soviet Union in the common European process?

[Zhurkin] Any kind of definitive plan simply does not exist. There are several viewpoints which basically are supportive of the USSR. Although there is a certain sense of disappointment in connection with our economic difficulties, our inability to independently solve our financial problems, and our political squabbling, which resounds frequently in the presentations of Western political experts. I wish to stress that this does not represent malicious rejoicing at our misfortune, but is an expression of alarm and sympathy. Along with its problems and misfortunes, the USSR is part of the European system.

[Borzenko] The Warsaw Pact has been dissolved, but the NATO military alliance continues to exist. What do you think—can we expect a responsive move from our former enemies?

[Zhurkin] The Warsaw Pact did not break up due to some kind of deal with NATO. It is simply that when the political system that held Warsaw Pact participants in its grip for many years disintegrated, they decided to move out of it. It seems unjustified to me to make a comparison to the effect that, because the Warsaw Pact has dissolved, NATO must terminate its existence. Far more important are the objective processes underway today—first of all, NATO no longer has the enemy it was created to oppose; second, NATO is no longer faced with the threat we amassed over time. From my point of view, NATO is very slowly undergoing transformation. Last year's London declaration formulated quite precisely the concept of restructuring its strategy, of changing NATO's relationship to the common European process. In the Copenhagen documents NATO adopted at last year's session, we see a reduction of military potential and the development of cooperation with Eastern Europe.

[Borzenko] How will our relations with NATO be structured in the future?

[Zhurkin] We have established the foundations for cooperation, first and foremost on questions of European security.

We have the opportunity to compare military doctrines and to lodge any existing grievances against one another. Let us consider arms reduction. After all, this process has not ceased in Europe after the conclusion of the Paris Treaty signed last year. Cooperation between the USSR and NATO members in the sphere of arms reduction is inevitable.

[Borzenko] How will relations between the USSR and the former socialist countries be structured in the future?

[Zhurkin] There are quite a number of difficulties in our relations—economic problems primarily. I believe everyone is to blame, and each made a big mistake—the USSR and CEMA members—when the decision was made to effect transition to trading in freely convertible currency. Neither side has such currency in sufficient quantities, and as a result the system of relations which has existing to this day has conclusively fallen apart. All the same, we have a sound basis for cooperation. The USSR has been and remains a market for many products of the East European countries because—to put it quite frankly—while these products sell sluggishly in the Western market, they often sell far better than Soviet products. In addition, we have created a powerful infrastructure—oil pipelines, gas pipelines, railroad freight lines, a fixed interconnection of electricity networks, etc. The USSR will remain a very important supplier of electricity to these countries for many years to come.

West Europe

Soviet-Austrian Space Launch Scheduled for 2 Oct

LD0908214191 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1900 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Soviet aerospace officials have announced that the launch of a mixed Soviet-Austrian crew is scheduled for 2 October. The main and standby crews include two space researchers, one Austrian and one Kazakh. The crews are expected to start training with mock up devices at the Baykonur cosmodrome to simulate different modes of approach to the orbiting station Mir by the spaceship. Aboard the station they will join the crew of two, Anatoliy Artsebarskiy and Sergey Krikalev, now almost three months in flight, to conduct joint experiments.

TASS Details Mission

LD0908223991 Moscow TASS in English 2139 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Rena Kuznetsova]

[Text] Moscow August 10 TASS—A crew consisting of Soviet cosmonauts and an Austrian astronaut is scheduled to lift off on October 2, TASS was told in the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre.

It will be an uncommon mission, specialists said. For the first time the two crews undergoing training will include two researchers, instead of one as was the custom earlier. Both crews, the main and the back-up one, will include one Austrian and one Kazakh researcher.

The first space crew consists of Soviet cosmonauts Aleksandr Volkov and Takhtar Aubakirov (Kazakhstan) and Franz Fiebek (Austria), the other crew members are Aleksandr Viktorenko, Kazakh Talgat Musabayev and Austrian Klemens Lotaller.

The training has now entered the home stretch. This past week was devoted to intensive simulation of the Austro-Mir programme to be performed on board the space station. Specialists from Austria praised the degree of preparedness of their compatriots for the space mission.

Their Kazakh colleagues Aubakirov and Musabayev are leaving for Kazakhstan on Saturday, where they will practice spacecraft orientation on the approaches to the Mir orbital station at the Baikonur Cosmodrome.

Although the international space crews had little time to spare for their overall preparations, specialists note that their professional level is quite adequate. Their previous experience as airmen had undoubtedly come in handy. Suffice it to say that Takhtar Aubakirov was awarded the top Soviet distinction of a hero of the Soviet Union in 1988 for successes in testing aircraft.

After a week at Baikonur they will rejoin their colleagues at the cosmonaut training centre just outside Moscow.

Two Soviet cosmonauts, Anatoliy Artsebarskiy and Sergey Krikalev, are now working aboard the Mir space station awaiting the arrival of visitors.

Artsebarskiy is expected to return to the earth with the international crew. Sergey Krikalev and a new flight commander will remain on board, the station's tenth main expedition crew.

Which of the two crews will go up is to be determined at the Baikonur Cosmodrome directly before the blast-off.

Commentary Views Conference on Cyprus Problem

NC0908211691 Moscow Radio Moscow in Greek to Greece 2000 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to observers' opinions, there is a good chance the efforts to convene a conference on the Cyprus problem in September will be intensified. But it will not be easy to achieve. The contradictory reports which appear in the press show that no substantial progress has been made in bridging the gap between the two parties' positions. The rather optimistic forecasts that were expressed for this matter have been rejected by the Cyprus Government spokesman.

Speaking last Wednesday, the government spokesman denied allegations that the parties concerned in talks for a Cyprus settlement had come close to an agreement on seven of the eight basic points. Cypriot President Yeoryios Vasiliou told the press, after meeting with U.S. State Department representative Nelson Ledsky, that such allegations are unfounded and added that further movement toward an agreement depends exclusively on Ankara's and the Turkish Cypriot leadership's positions. The Cypriot president thus let it be understood that the Greek Cypriot side continues to await a reply to the questions it addressed to Turkey on the territorial and constitutional issues and the refugee problem. All these things indicate that the green light for a conference on the Cyprus problem will not be given unless the parties agree on a compromise.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman recently made a statement on this issue and stressed that the effectiveness of the conference on the Cyprus problem will depend on bridging the gap between the parties' positions on the substantive points of the settlement and on the composition of the sides that will participate in the conference. The Soviet Union again noted the need for active support by all of the UN secretary general's efforts, whose special envoys are currently holding intensive consultations with the concerned parties.

Observers who have analyzed Soviet statements stress that the Soviet Union, which even in 1974 had proposed convening an international conference on the Cyprus problem within the framework of the United Nations, has again confirmed its interest for a just and lasting settlement for the island. As it emerges from Soviet Foreign Ministry statements, Moscow's position in support of the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus remains unchanged. Our country believes the current international situation offers new possibilities to jointly find solutions which satisfy all Cypriots, Greeks, and Turks and which will enhance the statehood of Cyprus.

Such decisions can be made in an international conference under UN auspices which, in the Soviet Union's opinion, must be very well prepared. On this issue, Moscow supports active cooperation, within the UN Security Council framework, of the Security Council permanent members. As is well known, the formula which Athens and Nicosia submitted for a future conference provides for participation in the conference by all UN Security Council permanent members.

Prime Minister Pavlov Completes Visit to Finland

Discusses Boosting Ties

LD0808211691 Moscow TASS in English 2104 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Text] Petrozavodsk August 8 TASS—Soviet Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov has completed an intensive

three-day programme of his stay in Karelia. Today he familiarised himself with the activity of a joint venture in timber processing.

Ladenso firm formed with the participation of Finnish entrepreneurs is engaged in timber processing and restoration of forests in the southwest of Karelia.

During a conversation with the Soviet prime minister, specialists of both countries expressed satisfaction with the initial results of joint work.

It is important that most uptodate technologies are being introduced to the industry which needs profound modernisation, Pavlov said. Due to more rational use of timber, it becomes possible to increase the delivery of timber for the national economy and to implement a complex of important measures for environmental protection.

Specific ways for promoting the strengthening of ties with Finland were discussed when the Soviet premier visited Vartsila checkpoint. These questions become extremely important now that the intensity of business and humanitarian ties between the two countries increased.

Then Pavlov visited Sortavala, one of Karelia's industrial centres, and went to the Valaam island.

Further on Talks With Premier

PM1108184391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[TASS observer B. Grishchenko report: "USSR and Finland Agree on Barter Trade"]

[Text] On 7 August USSR Prime Minister V.S. Pavlov, who is visiting the Karelian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, had a working meeting with Finnish Prime Minister E. Aho in the region of Kostomuksha, near the Soviet-Finnish border.

The meeting was held in the young mining city of Kostomuksha, built with the active participation of construction workers from the neighboring country. A powerful, technically well equipped mining and enriching combine functions there.

Kostomuksha, like a sensitive indicator, precisely and clearly reflects all the complexities which have risen in Soviet-Finnish trade and economic ties recently. Objective reasons are to blame for this development, not a loss of mutual interest by the partners.

As people in Karelia emphasize, this interest not only has not diminished but is increasing as the Soviet reforms are deepened. Without waiting for better times, business circles in the neighboring country are, as far as they are able, promoting the development of the market infrastructure in the republic by training Soviet specialists and helping small and mixed enterprises, of which, incidentally, there are now approximately 140 in small Kostomuksha alone, to find their feet. The first Karelian farmers recently received a consignment of equipment, pedigree livestock, and elite strains of a number of agricultural crops as a gift from their Finnish colleagues.

After the meeting, the head of the USSR Cabinet of Ministers pointed out that, unlike traditional methods, we now intend to resolve problems comprehensively—not only for the republics but also for the entire country as a whole. V.S. Pavlov called this combination a specific example of the approach to realizing the Union's new political system.

V.S. Pavlov emphasized that a mechanism of cooperation must now be created promptly to accord with the present transitional period. The work of the Soviet-Finnish Mixed Commission for Trade and Economic Cooperation must be revised in terms of substance and organization, and corresponding changes must be made to tax legislation and the practice of taxing commodity turnover within the framework of border ties. Questions of imparting a commercial nature to ecological interests were discussed, V.S. Pavlov said. Thanks to this, he explained, it would be possible to use new commodity resources and make an additional weighty contribution to mutual commodity turnover. Questions of organizing new switching systems, including a throughput system [kommutatsionnykh sistem, vklyuchaya i propusknuyu sistemu], also occupied an important place in the dialogue.

Responding to Finnish reporters who asked whether a return to the former economic system which was dominated by barter is possible, the Soviet premier emphasized: A return to the methods of the past is simply impossible under the new conditions. But it is also wrong to skip, as we have tried to do, from one stage of cooperation to a totally different one, as life shows. This leads to the destruction of what joint efforts have already achieved. Specifically regarding barter, the USSR Cabinet of Ministers has adopted a decision making it possible to implement barter deals with Finnish firms.

The Finnish prime minister returned home in the afternoon, and his Soviet colleague devoted several hours to a detailed familiarization with the work of Kostomuksha Mining and Enriching Combine.

Cabinet Issues Resolution on Ties

LD0908105291 Moscow TASS in English 1007 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—The Soviet Cabinet of Ministers on Friday resolved to apply its resolution 393 of June 23, 1991 "on additional conditions for state enterprises, associations and organisations to develop trade and economic ties with foreign countries in 1991" to trade and economic relations with finland.

The resolution was circulated here on Friday.

Soviet-Made Ammunition Washes Ashore in Finland

Navy Apologizes

OW1008214491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Over 60 boxes with artillery shells and fuses of Soviet make have been washed ashore in southern Finland. They will be sent back to Leningrad shortly.

Vice-Admiral Igor Kudryashov, chief of staff of the Leningrad naval base, expressed official apologies to Finland's consul in Leningrad on Friday.

As IF's [INTERFAX] reporter was told at the Finnish Consulate, the apologies came in the wake of an official protest by the Finnish Government against the way Leningrad naval servicemen disposed of old ammunition in the Bay of Finland.

The naval base command has acknowledged that the prescribed procedure was violated during the dumping of the ammunition in the bay waters. Vice-Admiral Kudryashov said that "it was the first such incident in the Leningrad base's history, and the persons responsible for it will be punished."

Leningrad Vice-Admiral Cited

LD0908193291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1245 GMT 09 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Mikhail Utyanskiy]

[Text] Leningrad 9 Aug (TASS)— The command of the Leningrad Naval base today offered its apologies to the Finnish Consul-General in Leningrad for negligence in the disposal of munitions.

In violation of the requirements for disposing of explosives not fit for utilization on the ground, 64 wooden crates, some containing perforated fuses, were dumped into the water and then rose to the surface off the Finnish coast.

"There has been no ill intention," Vice-Admiral Igor Kudryashov, chief of staff of the Leningrad Naval base, told TASS. "It is extremely rare for us to dispose of explosives in this way, and it is only done on those occasions in specifically designated locations inside the Soviet Union's territorial waters.

"In keeping with international practice, we are not obliged to inform the Finnish side about the projected destruction of point detonating fuses.

"The low professional level of the staff who dumped the dangerous devices and wooden crates into the water have caused the unsuspecting people added worry."

The commander informed TASS that agreement had been reached to return the hazardous materiel to the Soviet Union.

German Paper Examines Waiver of Debt Repayments

PM0908120391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report from IZVESTIYA, TASS, INTERFAX, IAN, REUTER, UPI roundup: "Will the USSR Be Excused Its Debts?"]

[Text] The latest issue of the weekly DER SPIEGEL reports that "according to assessments by German banking circles, the West intends to release the Soviet Union from payment of a considerable part of its foreign debts." As Friedel Neuber, leader of Germany's Westdeutsche Landesbank, declared, in view of the very high probability that the USSR will be unable to pay the agreed interest on credits this year, the creditors "should most likely find some other solutions." "Neuber," the magazine points out, "avoids using such tempting formulas as 'talks on the rescheduling of debts' or 'the abandonment of demands,' but his offer aims at precisely this goal."

UK Ships To Join Barents Sea Exercises

OW0808224691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1920 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] HM Navy ships will take part in joint exercises with Soviet warships for the first time since the end of the second World War. The exercises will start in the Barents sea on August 26. The invitation to the exercises extended to the British side by the Soviet Navy was intended to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the first allied Arctic convoy which reached Russia's northern shore in 1941.

Latin America & Caribbean

Aid to Cuba Costs 4.5 Billion Rubles per Year

OW0908214191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1626 GMT 9 Aug 91

["Diplomatic Panorama" by diplomatic correspondents Pyotr Vasiliev and Mikhail Mayorov: "Soviet Technical and Military Help to Cuba Costs 4 to 4.5 billion Rubles a Year;" transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to the data from one of the scientific institutes belonging to the Soviet Academy of Sciences, specializing in the study and analysis of world problems and international relations, Cuba is the Soviet Union's number one debtor. In the estimation of this institute, whose information was made available to "DP," [Diplomatic Panorama] Cuba's indebtedness as of November 1989 was worth 15 billion, 490 million rubles. This sum

is made up of three parts: granting of trade credits, technical assistance and military help. Yet another part of the debt, approximately equal to a third of the named sum, has been written off with the words "forgive and forget."

The Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations' data shows that trade credits make up only an insignificant part of Cuban foreign debt to the USSR. Economic help was "drowned" in preferential trade relations. The Soviet Union bought sugar from Cuba at prices which were two to four times higher than on the world market, and exported oil, machinery and equipmentat prices just as many times lower.

It follows that the larger part of the figure named comes from technical and military assistance. According to the data from the institute, "pure military help" presently costs 1 to 1.5 billion rubles a year, and technical assistance is valued at about 3 billion rubles a year.

At this point, however, some amendment must be made. Specifically, what part of this sum goes to covering the costs of keeping Soviet submarines on Cuba's coasts, and to providing for the pilots of military planes based there?

Besides this there is still one elements of Cuban indebtedness to the Soviet Union—that is, the "African debts." The Soviet Union allotted 2 billion 860 million rubles a year to maintain Cuban troops in Ethiopia, and in Angola—2 billion 28 million rubles, as it was said, for material analysis.

"The possibility has not been ruled out, that in the near future the Soviet Union could officially publish the size of military aid to Cuba." A high-ranking official from the Soviet Foreign Ministry who wished to remain anonymous told "DP," however, that such a decision should only be made by the Supreme Soviet and the Ministry of Defense, and not by a diplomatic department.

According to his words, the present size of Soviet aid to Cuba could in no way be called "excessive." The diplomat also stated that he "did not know anything about the supposed reduction in military aid by 20 percent," although he noticed that "the size of Soviet military assistance to Cuba has been decreasing."

"Today, help can only be given in such measures which the Soviet Union can allow, taking into conisderation the present condition of its economy." A new principle is now at the base of Soviet -Cuban relations—the principle of mutual benefit. This understanding is, by the way, greeted by the Cuban side.

At the same time the diplomat emphasized that the USSR did not intend to reject any cooperation with Cuba in other areas—political, economic, cultural and others.

"In the political scheme of things, there is a whole number of aspects which make such cooperation attractive to the Soviet Union." To explain this more clearly, he remarked that Cuba is an influential member of the Non-Alignment Movement, and is striving to establish a new world order, which would be founded on the inapplicability of military force and which would entirely exclude the threat of its use in the future. "This is in our interests as well," emphasized the man from the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

With regard to Soviet political obligations to Cuba, the diplomat remarked that "an entire complex of ties exist," which do not allow the Soviet Union to distance itself from the Central American country. "Imagine how the situation there would unfold, if we were to suddently break off relations. Most importantly one must keep in mind how this would affect the Cuban people."

At the present time "we feel that Cuba is surrounded by an abnormal situation," he continued. "There is a certain risk of escalating tensions. A normalization should be reached solely by political measures, through dialogue. And in the first place, between the USA and Cuba," the powerful Soviet diplomat said.

The discussion touched upon how to tie the processes of democratization in the Soviet Union with the continuing help to Cuba, which at the moment spurns democratic values. President Bush reproached this tie during his time in Moscow for the summit. The diplomat answered, that "democracy cannot be forced, it is a natural process. The people themselves should decide their fate and chose the path of their development. Internal processes should develop without any pressure from outside forces."

Technological, Military Aid to Cuba Described

OW1008044791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to a USSR Academy of Sciences institute, Cuba is the Soviet Union's biggest debtor. The institute told IF [INTERFAX] that according to its calculations, Cuba's debt stood at 15.490 bln. [billion] Rbs [rubles] as of November 1989. The debt includes: trade loans given to Cuba, technological aid and military assitance. Part of the debt, ⅓ of this amount, has been written off or, in other words, forgiven.

According to the Ministry for Foreign Economic ties, trade loans account for an insignificant portion of the Cuban debt to the USSR, while the bulk of the debt is technological and military aid. The institute said that "purely military aid" stands at the current stage at some 1 to 1.5 bln. Rbs. annually, and Soviet technological aid to Cuba is estimated at 3 bln. Rbs. a year.

Another part of the Cuban indebtedness to the Soviet Union is its "African debts." According to the study, the USSR annually paid Cuba 2.860 bln. Rbs. to keep its troops in Ethiopia and 2.028 Rbs for its troops stationed in Angola.

"It is not impossible that the Soviet Union makes public soon the volume of its military aid to Cuba," said a well-placed official at the USSR Foreign Ministry who requested anonymity; he noted that a decision to disclose the size of the aid must originate at the Supreme Soviet and the Defense Ministry.

The diplomat said that he did not know anything about the projected downscaling of military supplies by 20

but noted that "Soviet military aid to Cuba is shrinking".

Soviet-Cuban relations are now based on a new principle, that of mutual benefit, said the diplomat,—a switch that the Cubans met with understanding.

Volga Region Delegation Begins Nicaragua Visit

LD0908102291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0400 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Yuriy Dmitriyev]

[Excerpt] Managua, 9 Aug (TASS)—A delegation of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic's Ministry of Foreign Economic Ties arrived in Nicaragua Thursday at the invitation of that Central American country's government. The delegation includes representatives of business circles from the Volga region who have brought with them concrete proposals for establishing mutually beneficial ties with Nicaraguan partners. They plan to sign a Russian-Nicaraguan agreement on trade and economic cooperation at the end of the visit.

As the members of the delegation said to a TASS correspondent, the main task facing them during the almost two week visit to Nicaragua is to lay the foundations for joint entrepreneurship. [passage omitted]

Political & Social

Union Treaty Signing Schedule Reportedly Proposed

LD1008144191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY reports that it has been learned from competent sources that USSR President M. S. Gorbachev has proposed a timetable for the signing of the Union treaty. The signing would proceed in stages. It is proposed that it will be opened on 20 August in St. George's Hall of the Great Kremlin Palace. The first to sign the document will be Russia, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan. On 3 September, Belorussia and Tajikistan will put their signatures to the treaty. Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan will do so on 20 September, and the Ukraine and Azerbaijan on 10 October. At a later date other republics and a Union delegation are scheduled to sign, the timetable says.

CPSU Secretariat Examines Economic Issues

LD1108124191 Moscow TASS in English 1227 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 11 TASS—The Secretariat of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee met for a regular meeting to examine electricity supplies to the population and support for the policy of price parity between agriculture and other sectors of the country's economy.

A document released here today says that the state of matters in electric power engineering has seriously aggravated. For over five years now the country did not have a plan for the development of power engineering. The terms for the elaboration of a new power programme of the USSR appeared to be unfilfilled.

Speakers expressed the conviction that to avoid possible large lapses in the supply of electricity to the national economy and the population next winter, party committees and organisations should keep in the focus of their attention everything that is related to the provision of assistance to power engineers and builders of energy-generating facilities.

It was pointed out at the meeting that it would be a major political mistake with regard to farmers to continue to declare the need for a price parity instead of taking specific measures to restore and maintain the equivalent exchange between the city and the countryside. Speakers called for specific actions to ensure the payment of compensations to farmers.

The Secretariat also examined the CPSU's work with organisations of labour and war veterans. It was stressed that concern over mounting attempts to strike out the country's history, the ideals and values to which this generation of Soviet people devoted their lives is rising among veterans. In several regions, veterans are denied elementary privileges and aid deserved by them. Callousness and indifference are shown to their needs.

The Secretariat endorsed measures to strengthen ties and interaction between party committees and organisations of the veterans of war, labour, and the USSR Armed Forces.

Prokofyev Interviewed on Situation in CPSU

LD0908191191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1240 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandras Budris]

[Text] Moscow, 9 Aug (TASS)—The draft CPSU program published yesterday should satisfy the majority of communists, Yuriy Prokofyev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Moscow City Party Committee believes.

Interviewed by your TASS correspondent, he observed that this program "will make it possible to preserve the party, and not split it, merely isolating the extremes both on the right and on the left".

Speaking about the leadership change that has just taken place in the Communist Party of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR], Yuriy Prokofyev said that he "welcomes the courage of Ivan Polozkov, who realized that as leader he was playing a negative role for the party itself". In Yuriy Prokofyev's view, the mistake of the former leadership of the RSFSR Communist Party was that it adopted "a sharply critical stance concerning the actions of other political leaders, without offering anything of its own".

Yuriy Prokofyev expressed the hope that the party's new leaders "will put forward constructive suggestions, their vision of how Russia should develop and of how reforms should proceed there". He noted that Valentin Kuptsov, the new party leader, has amassed a wide range of contacts with other political partues and movements. In his view, this will be of undoubted benefit to the Russian Communist Party in multiparty conditions. In describing Kuptsov, Yuriy Prokofyev emphasized that "this person is capable of avoiding confrontation".

Speaking about the proclamation of the Democratic Party of Communists of Russia (DPCR) within the CPSU, led by RSFSR Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, Yuriy Prokofyev observed that here, as is the case with the "Movement for Democratic Reforms" (MDR), the matter concerns an attempt to split the CPSU "from the top". He recalled that last year the "Democratic Platform within the CPSU" tried unsuccessfully to split the party "from the bottom".

It is not possible to create a new and powerful political party in the USSR without splitting the CPSU, Yuriy Prokofyev said. However, in his view, the MDR and the DPCR, just like the "Communist Initiative", are a group of conservatives in the CPSU. Behind this is the existence within the CPSU of "a center which is striving to organize, head, and carry out reforms", in Prokofyev's view.

Describing the situation in the republican communist parties, Yuriy Prokofyev observed that they are currently working in completely different circumstances. The leaders of Central Asia head the communist parties of the republics, and are drawing on party structures in their reforms. At the same time, in Russia, Belorussia, and Ukraine, the communist parties, while preserving their mass nature, have ceased to be ruling parties. In the Baltics they have been compelled to work semi-legitimately. In Prokofyev's view, such a situation will continue to exist after the forthcoming signing of the Union treaty.

CPSU's Stroyev Claims Reforms at Farmers' Expense

OW0708141991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A member of the Politburo of the CPSU Yegor Stroyev has said that there are powers in the USSR trying "to carry out the economic reform at the expense of farmers". He said this manifests itself in the one-sided rises of prices of manufactured goods. In some rural areas the situation is explosive, Stroyev stressed at a Wednesday news conference in Moscow on the party's agricultural policy.

He said that the program for reviving the countryside was not backed by the necessary resources. The Soviet Union failed to avoid the degradation of the rural way of life. According to Stroyev, the question of land ownership and equal exchanges between town and countryside remains unresolved.

In the first six months of the year the production of some food stuffs dropped by 60 percent compared to the same period in 1990, still there should be no fear of a hungry winter. There will be enough grain to feed the people, Stroyev reassured, and sow winter and spring crops.

According to the official, grain imports will not exceed last year's level. The actual size of imports will be decided after the end of harvesting. By now over 8 mln. tons of grain have been purchased and paid for.

Stroyev said that farms selling their produce to the produce [as received] for foreign currency will be relieved of the foreign currency profit tax if they spend the money on purchases of new technologies.

Views Agrarian Property Policy

LD0708133191 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 7 Aug 91

[By Aleksandras Budrys]

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—The Soviet Communist Party's objective is to eliminate the monopoly on land, a senior party functionary told journalists today.

Addressing a news conference on the party's agrarian policy, Yegor Stroyev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the party Central Committee, pointed out that the party supports leasing land with the right to inherit it "to all those who wish and are able to work productively on this land."

The party's chief task during the period of transition to a market economy is social protection of the peasants, Stroyev said. This implies, specifically, the establishment of a price parity and equivalent exchanges between the town and the village, he remarked.

The party will continue to pursue its political line through communists in management structures and work collectives, Stroyev emphasised.

At present, he said, 2.6 million communists, or one-fifth of the party's total numerical strength, work on collective and state farms.

A total of 13,500 people joined the party in the past six months in the countryside and only one-third of that number left the party.

In Stroyev's opinion, this fact shows that "the party enjoys strong positions in the countryside. Peasants believe in the Soviet Communist Party's agrarian policy."

Abalkin Assesses Progress of Economic Plans

LD0808131391 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1910 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Passages in quotation remarks are superimposed report on recorded remarks by Abalkin in Russian]

[Text] The weekly NEDELYA has begun to publish excerpts from a book by the former Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, Leonid Abalkin, who was in charge of economic affairs. He resigned after spending 18 months in office. Radio Moscow's reporter has been discussing the book with the author.

When he took office in 1989, Abalkin said that the government had one and a half years at its disposal to stop the negative trends and bring about an economic upturn. If it failed to do so, it would have to resign. There has been no improvement and Abalkin stepped down. However, the question whether the goal he set himself and his colleagues was realistic still remains.

In the foreword to his book Leonid Abalkin, a member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, says there was such a chance. If it had not been missed, life today would be far better than it really is. So why the chance was missed? In his book Leonid Abalkin looks for an answer. Abalkin was the brainfather [as heard] of one of the programs for ending the crisis in the Soviet economy. There were several reasons why it has never materialized. Shortly afterwards the current cabinet under Valentin Pavlov launched its own program. This is how Leonid Abalkin sees the price rise carried out by the Pavlov cabinet:

"Leonid Abalkin is saying the timing of the reform could not be worse. Those who were responsible for the reform lacked skill and professionalism. The price rise would have been justified if it led to an increase in the production of commodities and helped fill the market. Nothing of the sort happened. The counters are as empty as they were, even though the prices are up many times. This cannot but make people angry."

This is probably the first time you criticized the Prime Minister, Pavlov, in an interview, isn't it? Leonid Abalkin:

"Abalkin is saying: I have deliberately refrained from criticizing Pavlov and his program in public for at least two reasons. Firstly, I do wish him to be more lucky than the previous cabinet and secondly, I always remember something the public mind still seems to be unable to understand. One cannot wish economic prosperity to the people and failure to the government and its economic policies at the same time."

Yakovlev Comments on Renunciation of Marxism

LD0908224691 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1910 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] In one of his recent interviews, the Soviet president's senior adviser Aleksandr Yakovlev declared that he no longer regarded Marxism as a guide to action and arrived at the conclusion that socialism had suffered a setback.

The renunciation of Marxism by Yakovlev came as a surprise to many; after all, for several years he'd been the party's chief ideologist and believed to be the main architect of perestroyka. His ideas aiming to restructure society formed the core of the strategic line pursued by the party. And then came the reappraisal of the views. Why? Said Aleksandr Yakovlev:

There was a belief in intellectual circles prior to perestroyka, Aleksandr Yakovlev said, that the existing society had developed a lot of shortcomings. Some thought, however, all that was needed was to improve certain things and (?there) and all will be all right, but as it turned out, our system needed a radical reform. Aleksandr Yakovlev went on, for all the blemishes were caused by the system itself.

Aleksandr Yakovlev went on to say that back at the 28th Congress he had warned about the need to renew the party, to add younger blood to it. If the party will continue thinking about its own power alone, Yakovlev declared at the Congress, it would stop to be a major political force in the country. Yakovlev believes the reform could be carried out at the time of the 28th Congress but now it's too late.

Aleksandr Yakovlev gave a rather high appraisal to the party's new draft program and described it as a largely social democratic document. He recalled at the same time that the decisions of the 28th Congress were also fair, and so was the action program, but no one intended to put them into practice. The same will happen, Aleksandr Yakovlev thinks, to the draft program made public right now.

When asked why, in this case, he remained in the party ranks, Aleksandr Yakovlev admitted that the question was too complicated for him. Frankly, he said, I've weighed it and thought it over many a time, but in any work, Yakovlev went on, the interests of expediency and time come first. But later on in an interview given to a correspondent of the Soviet news agency TASS, he gave to understand that the question of membership in the party no longer existed for him.

Opposition Reaction to July Plenum Viewed

PM1108141791 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Aug 91 Second Edition p 1

["Topical Subject" article by Nikolay Kozhanov: "Why So Irritable?"]

[Text] You are left with a strange impression after studying the numerous comments and commentaries made by our democratic and, of course, "100-percent independent" press regarding the course and outcome of the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum.

You would have thought that those who abused Communists for their "sleepy conservatism," "blind submissiveness to outdated dogmas," "inability for renewal" and so on and so forth would have had every cause to rejoice after the plenum. Namely because the overwhelming majority of the participants in the party forum agreed to use as a base the draft Program in which the CPSU resolutely rejects the stereotypes of the past and announces its presence as a party of democratic reform, operating by political means alone within the framework of the law. Even ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, which you by no means suspect of having particular sympathies for Communists, acknowledged that everything indicates that there is "no organized conservative force" on the current Central Committee.

The conclusion seemed self-evident: We both favor radical economic reform and the introduction of market relations with the least possible losses for society and working people. If that is the case, let us work together in harmony and act in a single direction. Through common efforts we will overcome the chaos within the economy more rapidly and stabilize the situation in the country, and people will breathe just a little more freely when they see the light at the end of the tunnel....

Far from it. At first some were stunned. Take a LITERATURNAYA GAZETA observer: "Never before has the post-totalitarian party been so close to a split. Then suddenly...." "It was hard to expect the Communists' plenum to go as defiantly calmly without trouble and strife...." (The logic is still surprising: Even tranquillity within the party gives some journalists the impression of a hostile challenge!)

But the confusion and embarrassment only lasted a moment. Then they moved to the attack. A statement by Shatalin, Travkin, and other leaders of the "united democratic party" appeared in that same ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA. "The true, unchanging image of a party for which the monopoly on power and the craving for totalitarianism were and remain the only raison d'etre has clearly shown through behind the social democratic mask," they pontificate, assessing the plenum's decisions. Why? How does this follow? Yesterday's Communists who have fled into the opposing camp are not bothering to prove this: Accept it without questioning because they say so.

There is a shortage of arguments, so gross abuse and insults are being put about. Regrettably, the incumbent Russian vice president has not refrained from doing this either. At the constituent conference of the party which he intended to found and head A. Rutskoy unhesitatingly said the following about the leadership of the Russian Communist Party (of which, incidentally, he was also a part as a Central Committee member): "When undistinguished, arrogant grandees who call themselves the servants of the people head the party, I begin to feel uncomfortable."

It gets worse as you go on. Suddenly becoming enraged, the editor of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA even before the plenum suddenly assailed PRAVDA, calling its staffers for no rhyme or reason "comrade sirs" who have grown accustomed to "living a lie." Even the former lyric poet Aleksandr Aronov in MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS let rip (it's becoming fashionable!) and joined the attack. He said that Communists "also remembered the Constitution" after the decree on departyization. I dare say that "they forgot about legality when they broke up constituent meetings (that's in the text—N.K.) and shot children..." It is of course commendable that the author knows something or is familiar with history, but accusing present party members of breaking up meetings and shooting children is.... You know this is akin to the louts from the "Black hundred" early this century who said, to justify the Jewish pogroms, "how can we not slaughter the Jews since they crucified Christ...."

Admittedly, I have pondered this seemingly paradoxical phenomenon a great deal: The closer the Communist Party's positions and program directives come to what its opponents from the "democratic" camp advocate, the more irritable the latter become and the more fiercely they fire on the CPSU. They should be rejoicing, but they are in a panic. Why?

A friend of mine—a party raykom [rayon party committee] secretary from the Ukraine—gave me one version. "What is there to be surprised about in this?" he explained. "After all, if the positions of rival parties and movements come too close, the enemy image in the person of the CPSU will disappear—an image which our opponents have instilled so carefully and persistently into people's minds. And it is through this—criticism and confrontation—that many of the present parties, movements, and newspapers have worked their way up. If the party does not split, but, on the contrary, survives and grows stronger, carrying out radical economic reform with everyone else, the radicals will inevitably begin to lose their footing and the very purpose of their political existence."

It's hard to tell how right this interpretation is, but "there's something in it." However, if that is the case, there's still no point in getting irritable and sounding the alarm? Read the Central Committee July Plenum documents and the draft party program, which is being published today, again carefully. There is no mention anywhere there of calls for struggle and confrontation with dissenters, much less for coups. The CPSU places the interests of the people, the fatherland, and man above all party political disputes. Is this not the only way to extricate our unfortunate country and society from the economic, political, and spiritual crisis and light a beacon of hope for everyone?

Marxist Representative Comments on Draft Program

LD1108054491 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The fourth all-Union conference of the supporters of the Marxist platform of the CPSU opened in Moscow today. PRAVDA recently published an official draft of the new program of the CPSU, which was put forward for an all-party discussion. It does not suit all the supporters of the Marxist platform. This is what Aleksey Prigarin, member of the coordination council of the Marxist platform, said in an interview with our correspondent.

[Begin recording] [Prigarin] What does not suit me is that the the point has been dropped in this draft on Communists striving to elimimate social differences, and striving for social equality. We recognize the inevitability of social inequality at present, but we must strive consistently to bring the situation to the point where these differences are reduced. Second, the situation should be under control. We are against this situation in which the majority of the population is getting poorer, whereas 2 to 3 percent are getting richer before our very eyes. This is the root of the discord. Unfortunately, this point is not present in the official draft.

The program does not fully reflect the fact that the country may become capitalized. We see the official mass propaganda announcing that capitalism is better than socialism. By the way, socialism is not just a slogan. This means free education, which is deminishing; free health care, which is being reduced; and free physical culture and sports, which have vanished completely. This means the right to work, which is being undermined. If one sets aside slogans and speaks about the most real and natural things, one sees that these things are vanishing before our very eyes. We are categorically against this. So far, the official draft of the program does not recognize this.

[Unidentified reporter] Will you propose your program as an alternative, or will it add to the official program of the CPSU?

[Progarin] It is precisely this issue that the conference should decide. I think that we should propose a minimum program for the CPSU on the behalf of the Marxist platform, which will make the general program more concrete, which will place the stress on the communist idea of this rather generalized document, and which will propose a real program of action that the majority of the population of the country can support. [end recording]

The participants in the conference have been given the draft minimum program of the CPSU which was worked out by Aleksey Prigarin. More socialism is the motto on the first page. There are many good slogans in the program. To Overcome the Economic Crisis; To Protect the Working People; To Turn the Economy So That It Faces the Human Being; To Strengthen the USSR; and To Restore Friendship Between Peoples. These are good words, but one hears them as a chant. The program ends with really remarkable words: The Communist Party of the Soviet Union expresses its profound belief that the Soviet people will meet the 21st century in the conditions of peace, prosperity, and social justice.

If the party says so, that is what will happen. But one recalls that we have heard something like this before.

Aviation Union Declares 'Pre-Strike' Situation

PM0908152891 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Aug 91 Union Edition p 4

[Report by G. Shipitko: "The Strike Is Not On, But It Has Not Been Called Off Either"]

[Text] A session of the presidium of the USSR All-Union Trade Union Association of Civil Aviation Flight Personnel has been held. At this session it was decided not to hold the pilots' strike scheduled for 10 August, but to declare a pre-strike situation as from OOOO hours of that day through 2 September.

This decision requires some clarification. As is known, the pilots planned to hold a strike 21 May. The reasons lay above all in the flight personnel's difficult material situation and lack of social protection on the part of the trade unions. At that time the Union Government took steps to remove the threat of a possible halt in air traffic. USSR Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 257 made provision for the satisfaction of most of the pilots' demands.

"However, most of them have remained unimplemented," A. Malinovskiy, president of the All-Union Trade Union Association of Civil Aviation Flight Personnel, has stated. "The government has not kept its promise. This has forced us to declare a pre-strike situation. Why not a strike? This is dictated exclusively by people's interests. This is the peak period in air transport. The time of summer holidays and school vacations. Therefore we have declared that the pre-strike situation period ends 2 September."

Let me recall that the pilots' demands boil down to four main points. Inclusion of flight personnel on the No. 1 list which entitles people to receive preferential social benefits. Bringing work and leisure regulations into line with the Labor Code. Implementation of the USSR Cabinet of Ministers resolution and conclusion of a general agreement between the trade union, the Cabinet of Ministers, and the USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation.

The pilots have made their move toward dialogue. It is now up to their opponents. Or could they be their allies?

Pilots End Strike

OW1008230891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Regular air flights resumed at Moscow's Vnukovo Airport at noon on Saturday, when internal line pilots ended the strike which they had launched 12 hours earlier.

According to Klim Kaitukov, vice-president of the National Trade Union Association of Soviet Civil Aviation Pilots (Russian acronym: PALSGA), pilots at Vnukovo demanded the dismissal of the airport's director A. Timofeyev and the conclusion of an agreement on wages and social security.

Talks between strike comittee activists and Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation V. Zamotin ended in the immediate fulfillment of the first demand, and produced an agreement to discuss the second one in detail at a meeting of striker representatives witht he heads of the Civil Aviation Ministry on August 12.

According to K. Kaitukov, the strike committee of pilots at another Moscow airport, Demodedovo, will meet on Monday to see whether or not to go on strike.

As IF [INTERFAX] has alrady reported, the PALSGA Council session on August 6-7 authorized all plane crews to independently decide between August 10 and September 2 whether or not to strike in protest against the unwillingness of administrations to fulfill their demands.

PALSGA advanced a number of demands to the USSR Cabinet of Ministers and the Civil Aviation Ministry. Its president Alfred Malinovskiy threatened to launch a nationwide pilot strike after September 2 if the protesters' demands were left unfulfilled.

Executed Polish Officers, Soviet Citizens Exhumed

LD1108091391 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 0530 GMT 11 Aug 91

[By correspondent Vitaliy Pichenko; From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] In the period 1938-40 it was here in Kharkov's park and woodland area that Soviet citizens and repressed Polish officers, shot in the prisons of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs [NKVD] were secretly buried—a total of about 8,000 people.

But there is nothing secret that it cannot become clear. The public has learned about a terrible tragedy of what amounts to a second Katyn on Soviet territory. Through the efforts of the procuracy, Chekists, and legal experts the exact site of the burial has been established. And what a terrible picture has been revealed following an exhumation. Skulls pierced by bullets, personal effects, distinguished service badges of officers of the Polish Army. It is painful and shameful that such bloody atrocities could be committed by our people in Soviet times. [video shows correspondent speaking at site where officials are supervising the arrangement of piles of human remains, with close-ups of skulls with bullet holes, people paying homage at site of memorial; cuts to show correspondent interviewing unidentified official]

[Pichenko] Have you been able to establish the names of the dead?

[Official] Yes. We have succeeded in this task. This was the main purpose of the investigation into this crime. I will be presenting this list today to the Polish side. But this does not mean that this work has been completed today. Together with the internal affairs bodies of Tver and Smolensk oblasts, we shall continue with this work.

[Pichenko] Members of the government, headed by Minister Lech Kaczynski, military leaders, religious figures, and families of the deceased arrived here from Poland today. A civil funeral was held. Then the remains of the Polish citizens and—next to them—Soviet citizens were buried in fraternal graves. A memorial was unveiled here. A cross, a stela, and a stone plaque: a memorial to those who fell.

Students Said Ready To Resist Army Call-Up

LD1108032191 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 10 Aug 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] In a letter to the USSR president, Defense Minister Yazov asks permission to call up students into the Army as early as this autumn.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified colonel] First of all, we take as a starting point the fact that everyone must be equal before the law. After all, it is called the law on universal military service. [end recording]

The catastrophic level of education, causing us to be ranked 54th in the world, does not worry the military. The question of the call-up of students has already grown into a political problem. In Moscow, students' strike committees are being set up. The committee of soldiers' mothers has declared its readiness to take to the streets with a call for civil disobedience if the postponement is lifted.

[Begin recording] [A. V. Aleynikov, secretary of the komsomol central committee] The komsomol central committee will join the student movement to protest this through all constitutional means. [end recording]

One can only guess at the social explosion there will be if the Ministry of Defense insists on putting an end to the postponement for students. [video shows interviews, soldiers]

'Control of Weapons' Law Provisions Viewed

PM0908130591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 91 Union Edition p 4

[Article by V. Rudnev and S. Mostovshchikov: "A Welcome to Arms? The USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs Has Started Talking Seriously About the Possibility of Arms Trade in the Soviet Union"]

[Text] The USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] Administration for the Legal Backup of Internal Affairs Organs has drawn up a document which will produce beyond any doubt a highly ambiguous reaction not only from top institutions of power in the USSR but from the entire population. The document is called the USSR draft law "On the Control of Weapons." For the first time in our legislative history, one section of the draft contains the concept of weapons of self-defense.

There are fewer and fewer phrases in the Soviet vocabulary which can send a chill of horror through an audience and are comparable in force to a national tragedy. However, words and phrases like "private property," "millionaire," "departyization," or "dissolution of kolkhozes" still have deadly force. Paradoxically, the word "weapons" can be placed on the same list. The uncompromising cult of weapons is surprising for a country which has grown used to an atmosphere of constant socialist "gains."

However, facts are facts: No less an authority than the USSR MVD has started talking for the first time about the need to finally allow citizens to independently protect themselves against crime using "self-defense weapons." According to available figures, Soviet law enforcement organs have not yet been able to halt the growth in such weapons. The militia believe that the new law's 21 pages of typewritten text will substantially change the situation and give Soviet citizens new rights, proving that the security of the individual in the USSR is becoming no less important than state security. The very fact that a draft law on weapons and a section on self-defense (be it good or bad) are appearing, shows that

somebody is nonetheless concerned about the interests of individual citizens in this country. At any rate, the USSR KGB, Defense Ministry, Ministry of the Defense Industry, Ministry of Justice, and other interested departments which were sent the draft have been studying it with genuine enthusiasm.

Specialists are highlighting several new approaches in the new document. Above all, it is proposed to divide all weapons on Soviet territory into nine types: military, official, hunting, sports, ceremonial, collectors' items, imitation, homemade, and self-defense weapons.

In order to avoid any confusion or mistaken interpretation, it is proposed to register all types of weapons at a USSR State Weapons Registry [oruzheynyy kadastr], which will comprise two sections—classified and unclassified. The classified section will contain full information about the types of military armaments and munitions held in the USSR—bombs, tanks, missiles, and so forth. The unclassified section will store information on weapons which are not state secrets.

The draft law also establishes a somewhat different relationship between the state and weapons manufacturers. It is proposed that the Soviet Government will issue special licenses to them. Thus, judging by everything, it is planned to leave the manufacture of the main types of weapons and munitions under the center's jurisdiction. However, the draft does not rule out the possibility that certain types of weapons and munitions (apart from military and official) could be produced by enterprises under republic jurisdiction, as well as by joint or private enterprises holding the relevant licenses. And Article 14 of the draft recognizes that a producer's first right is the right to own the weapons it produces and the income generated by selling them.

However pretty it may sound, all the above pales beside the nine sections of the draft headed "Self-Defense Weapons." The USSR MVD is inclined to consider this an act of unusual boldness—which in principle is correct, since the Soviet state has hitherto been unable to define its attitude to the problem of self-defense in general and to gas cylinders and canisters in particular.

The draft officially recognizes "appliances and devices with a tear-gas, irritant, stunning [udarno-bolevoy], and **other** (our emphasis—the authors) effect" to be self-defense weapons which should be sold "at people's places of residence through specialized stores under a procedure laid down by USSR MVD and republic MVD normative acts." They want to allow all Soviet citizens over the age of 16 to buy self-defense weapons, irrespective of whether they are abnormal, systematic drinkers, take drugs, violate public order, have outstanding convictions, or are involved in criminal or administrative proceedings.

Despite the fact that the section on self-defense makes no mention of a possible firearms trade in the USSR, MVD officers are hinting that this possibility is by no means ruled out. The draft is just acting as a touchstone, and formulas encountered in the text along the lines of "citizens acquire weapons and ammunition for them..." or "the right to bear arms and ammunition outside the precincts of an apartment or apartment block..." make it possible to discuss this long-overdue subject at the highest level.

It is hard to say when the omissions and excessive coyness will disappear from the new law and when it will come onto the statute books. On the other hand, it is quite easy to cite the arguments which will be used by supporters and opponents of a trade in weapons, gas pistols, and canisters in the USSR.

Here, for instance, is the view of Anatoliy Churzin, chief of the USSR MVD Permit System, whose duties include monitoring the storage and shipment of weapons, strong poisons, and radioactive material. As a professional, he believes that a trade in weapons will cause this country trouble it could do without. The number of crimes involving weapons is increasing sharply and law enforcement organs in general will be unable to guarantee citizens any security at all.

Moreover, Anatoliy Churzin said, only a very specific and quite restricted sector of the population is interested in weapons. People who want to arm themselves are mainly well-off. Ordinary citizens—who are in the majority—do not want weapons. This is confirmed by the MVD mailbag. Some 90 percent of the militia's correspondents have categorically protested trade in any kinds of weapons and do not support the spread of gas pistols and canisters among the population.

Admittedly, it is not just the MVD which is receiving mail. We have received a huge number of letters following IZVESTIYA's article "Does Armed Mean Dangerous?" (in issue No. 142), which stated that ordinary citizens are the least protected sector of the country's population—since they have no right to own personal weapons or any opportunity of buying them on the black market.

Most readers support the opinion expressed by the article's authors regarding the need to sell weapons for self-defense. This is stated in letters from V. Timofeyev of Novosibirsk, Ye. Perfilyev of Ashkhabad, A. Rodionov of Leningrad, and others. "The debate about personal weapons launched by IZVESTIYA is topical," A. Kozlov of Moscow believes, "and should be continued." "In prerevolutionary Latvia, all citizens without a criminal record were entitled to bear firearms and, correspondingly, to use them to protect themselves," Yu. Ayre of Dobele reports. "This law should be restored; it would strike a major blow against the criminal world and sharply reduce the number of people who suffer at the hands of these villains." "It is demeaning to feel helpless in the face of these scum," I. Elman, an irate pensioner from Novosibirsk, believes. A Muscovite—(Reserve) Major S. Lebedev—in general advocates the institution of an association for the right to own firearms, and is looking for supporters.

Militia Major Yu. Yermolov of Saratov Oblast believes that it is necessary to immediately (he emphasized that word) permit the bearing and keeping of small arms—pistols, revolvers, and handguns—by the entire population. First and foremost, by former militia workers, because, even when retired, they continue to be attacked by their former "clients." His colleague V. Ovchinnikov of Berdichev thinks likewise.

A. Kisenkov of Orekhovo-Zuyevo, on the other hand, draws our attention to the fact that it is too soon to raise the question of the free sale of arms without having set clear boundaries for justifiable defense in criminal law. IZVESTIYA has even received letters from academics—Candidate of Juridical Sciences Yu. Yushkov and Doctor of Law V. Yeleonskiy—on the incomplete nature of the concept of justifiable defense.

In particular, V. Yeleonskiy notes: "The right of citizens to plead justifiable defense against socially dangerous attacks is often made dependent on whether the person has time to turn to the militia for help. However, this interpretation distorts the social role of the concept of justifiable defense.... Under current criminal law anyone finding themselves in a position of justifiable defense has the right to 'shoot first.'" Here is Yu. Yushkov's opinion: "The right to self-defense is by no means fully invoked in current law enforcement practice. Under current legislation individuals take third place when it comes to protection, with the first two places going to the protection of the state and social interests...."

Not everything, of course, is as hopeless as the academics make out. The recently adopted Basic Guidelines of Criminal Legislation in the USSR and the Republics at least give pride of place to the protection of the individual and the rights of the victim. A fundamentally new aspect of the concept of justifiable defense has been introduced: "All citizens are entitled to defend themselves. Individuals enjoy this right irrespective of the opportunities open to them to avoid attack or to turn to other individuals or organs of power for help."

However, Soviet citizens will not be able to work this out for themselves until 1 July 1992—when this norm is due to come into force. Weapons have long been bought and sold in the USSR. Everyone makes illegal use of the black market—both criminals and, believe you me, respectable citizens. And this is indeed dangerous, since nobody has any control over the acquisition of weapons on the black market.

The legalization of the trade and the monitoring of it by competent organs would save many lives: Who is stopping every gun from being registered at a militia registry of bullets and cartridges? After all, bullets—like fingerprints—retain all the individual features of a weapon. Each shot fired points directly to the owner of the pistol. The fact that the state will have extra work is another matter: It will be necessary to make checks, carry out registration and recording work, monitor the reliable storage of weapons, and, finally, combat criminals—that is, carry out the state's direct duties.

It is hard to establish what the fate of the draft proposed by the militia will be, and what will remain of it after discussion. But it is far easier to say that the number of crimes against the person in the USSR is growing. The militia, by its own admission, is not the most reliable protector of the population today. Soviet citizens currently have only two legal and well-advertised means of self-defense: Either kicking your assailant in the groin or calling a cop in good time. But practice shows that these methods are becoming less effective.

Business Support Group Established

OW0808215491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1415 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] USSR Peoples' Deputies Nikolay Petrakov, Yuriy Chernichenko, Nikolay Shmelev and Genadiy Lisichkin have published a declaration announcing the establishment of the Association for the Support and Legal Protection of Business People in the USSR.

"The associations and other structures founded in recent years generally guarantee to protect the interests of their members but do not take account of the position of business people who are not members of any particular association.... Today business people represent one of the most vulnerable sections of society," says the document received by "INTERFAX".

In the view of the People Deputies who signed the declaration, cooperation between independent and protected business people from different parts of the country is one of the most realistic possible means of safe-guarding against nationalist conflicts and confrontation between different political power-groups.

Cooperation amongst business people across the country within the framework of the Association for the Support and Legal Protection of Business People will, they say, not only guarantee the genuine protection of the business community but will also provide a unified forum for the realisation of major projects on a nationwide or interregional level. The Association will offer legal help and economic and technical services to all citizens engaged in or planning to embark upon business activity.

The authors of the declaration have encouraged other members of parliament to become involved in the Association's activities.

Yeltsin Decree Seen Aggravating 'Hostility'

PM0708111791 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jul 91 Second Edition p 2

[Article by Candidate of Legal Sciences L. Rozhkova, head of the Samara State University Department of State and Law Theory and History: "There is a Question. We Are Not 'Cogs'"]

[Text] I cannot help expressing my opinion on the subject of RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Presidential Decree No. 14. I believe that even the very name, as well as the content, of this document is aimed at undermining the legality and the idea of a rule of law state as such in the country because this decree contradicts the RSFSR and USSR Constitutions in force, as well as the USSR Law "On Public Associations."

The preamble to the decree says: "With the aim of ensuring equality of rights for political parties and mass organizations, as established by the RSFSR Constitution, in the elaboration of state policy and in managing state affairs... I resolve...."

Further on, Point 1 of the decree declares: "The creation of new and the activity of existing primary organizations, committees, and other organizational structures of political parties and mass social movements in the organs of state administration of the RSFSR, the republics within the RSFSR, the executive organs of soviets of people's deputies at all levels, state institutions, organizations, and concerns, and enterprises situated on RSFSR territory, regardless of jurisdiction, is prohibited."

It is known that political relationships and politics lie at the basis of any political system of society. In order that diverse social interests can be expressed, and in order that diverse classes and social strata of the population can fight for their aims, they establish their own organizations—primarily parties. And parties are the most integral and formalized expression of the political correlation of social forces in the state.

Of course, the activity of parties and their significance in the political life of society are not identical. Therefore the norms of the RSFSR Constitution have enshrined the principles of equality of rights of the various political parties in running the affairs of society and the state, which is an indicator of the democratic nature of the relevant state system.

If we are talking about democracy, which primarily means political and ideological pluralism, then the following question then arises: Why is "the creation of new and the activity of existing... political parties and mass social movements" not permitted in the aforesaid places?

Given the present politicization of social life, it is doubtful whether many people living in the state will remain outside political life. And what are those who are at present members of a party (parties) and are working in state institutions, organizations, in concerns, and so on, to do? Give up their job or leave the party?

Belonging to a party and determining your political structures is a citizens' political right and is proclaimed in Article 49 of the RSFSR Constitution, Article 48 of the USSR Constitution, and Articles 10 and 15 of the USSR Law "On Public Associations."

Furthermore, the content of the said decree contradicts the Convention "On the Freedom of Associations and the Defense of the Right to Form an Organization" dated 9 July 1948, and Articles 2, 5, 19, and 26 of the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights dated 16 December 1966, and also—and this is the most paradoxical thing—the oath of the RSFSR president himself. And this is terrible inasmuch as a gross violation of legality and human and civil rights is emanating from the republic's first citizen. Again the question involuntarily arises: What specific responsibility will the president bear for the violation of constitutional legislation? Or maybe we are again being likened to quiet and complaisant "cogs" who will not rock the boat?

It must also be stressed that the presidential decree is not just an illegal act, it also creates serious obstacles to the development of the process of social accord. The leader of the state is called on to stabilize the social situation. Experience of Western states shows that no leading politicians set themselves the aim of agitating public opinion. On the contrary, the president should cement the foundation of the state and not defend either his own viewpoint or the opinion of a specific group.

In democratic states the activity of a leader who has come into or is in conflict with the law is not encouraged. Our leaders, however, immediately redraw the Constitutions of the country and the republic to suit their transient interests. Such a state of affairs will not lead to peace and accord but will only aggravate hostility and confrontation.

TASS Reviews 10 Aug Soviet Central Press

LD1008073191 Moscow TASS in English 0554 GMT 10 Aug 91

["Press Review"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 10 TASS—Central newspapers began the discussion of the draft programme of the Soviet Communist Party, published recently. According to PRAVDA, first telegrams on this subject began to come to the editorial board immediately after the publication of the draft programme. Today the newspaper carries the first selection of the comments received by the editorial board. A letter of one of the readers, frontpaged by the newspaper, says that "the party needs not the refreshing of make-up, but a deep, profound renovation."

SELSKAYA ZHIZN invites its readers to take part in the discussion of the draft programme. The appeal, signed by Vasiliy Tsarev, says that "the document has been drawn up in an honest way, without concealing tragic episodes of our history, but without whipping up strong feelings either." It deals "not with the interests of one of the parties, but with the destiny of the country."

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA believes that the publication of the draft programme became "the highlight of the political life of the country", because the stand assumed

by Soviet Communists in the difficult 90s "will determine to a considerable extent the progress of reform and the world development in general."

The draft programme, entitled "Socialism, Democracy and Progress", is published today by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

PRAVDA and RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA carry the resolution of the Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee "on the party's stand in the working-class movement of the country." It expresses concern over the "shrinking of the sphere of influence of the party in labour collectives." "Some workers withdraw from the party... the inflow of young workers to the party is reducing," the resolution says. It urges to take action immediately in order to "restore and strengthen natural ties between the Soviet Communist Party and the working class."

PRAVDA writes about a short press conference of Boris Gidaspov, first secretary of the Leningrad regional party committee, held in Leningrad on Friday. It dealt with the results of the plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party. The leader of Leningrad Communists said that "the inaction of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev" over the latest decree of Boris Yeltsin on the departisation of state institutions "is detrimental to the party."

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA publishes a polemic article about the fate of communes that were created in Russia after the 1917 Revolution. The author of the article, a journalist from Rostov-on-Don, comes to the paradoxical conclusion that "about 70 to 80 per cent of people who are condemning today both Lenin, the Soviet Communist Party, socialism and empty shelves of food stores are actually staunch supporters of socialism, who can never be changed."

TRUD writes about the speech made by Russian President Boris Yeltsin at a meeting with local government executives and managers of industrial enterprises in Tyumen, in which he summed up the results of his three-day visit to the Tyumen region. He pointed to a complicated situation at the west Siberian oil and gas complex, but stressed that there would be no centralised capital investments. The crisis should be overcome through greater economic independence.

In connection with the world UNEP assembly under the motto "Woman and Environment", due to be held in Miami, U.S., next November, PRAVDA carries an interview with the would-be participant in the assembly—Yelena Petushkova, world and Olympic champion in equestrian sports. She is an active participant in the "Green" movement which is taking shape in the country.

PRAVDA writes about the case of Marshal Kulik, who was accused of surrendering Kerch and Rostov-on-Don to the Nazis in 1941. He was stripped of his military rank and shot dead. Later he was fully rehabilitated.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA writes about the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, where armed clashes continue within the framework of the Armenian-Azerbaijan conflict. Especially fierce fighting took place in the southern area. Automatic weapons, mines and grenade launchers are being used. Some 40 people were killed at both sides in the past 17 days.

The newspaper also writes about the alarming situation at the Caspian Sea. Its level is continuously growing, which can result in the flooding of littoral cities and villages.

SELSKAYA ZHIZN writes about floods in the Khabarovsk region. Some 300,000 hectares of farm lands were inundated.

The all-Russian trade and industrial fair of Nizhni Novgorod, which was famous in the past, is being revived. RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA writes the presentation of the fair will take place between September 3 and 5, this year.

The international section of RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA carries an interview with Bjorn Jagland, secretary of the ruling Norwegian Labour Party. He belives that "real socialism" has given much useful experience to the world, and it is premature to bury the socialist system.

A special correspondent of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA writes in detail about the civil war in Yugoslavia. In his opinion, the developments in Yugoslavia are "the return to the medieval times."

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA carries an article commenting on the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, signed in Moscow recently. The author of the article believes that the treaty is [word indistinct] beneficial to us.

TASS Reviews 12 Aug PRAVDA

LD1208081191 Moscow TASS in English 0519 GMT 12 Aug 91

["Soviet Press Review"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS—The Soviet Communist Party daily PRAVDA on Monday in the rubric "Party Discussing Draft CPSU Programme" carries excerpts from its readers' letters devoted to the draft.

K. Zhigalov from Alma-Ata blames "egoism, disunity, separatism and confrontation for eroding our society. The only remedy that social medicine can offer in this situation is tolerance and consolidation. And these are the main points of the draft," he said.

The newspaper publishes comments by Nikolay Kapantsu, deputy business manager of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, in an article about the party's budget in NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA on August 8, 1991.

He says the Communist Party "strictly observes the Soviet law "On Public Assoociations", which demands that all political parties should publish annual budget reports". Kapantsu stressed that the party "has never had and does not have a hard currency account in other countries".

Some of the articles in today's PRAVDA are devoted to the current economic situation in the country. "Regrettably, but grievous and often futile mistakes in the struggle for power have fully ousted concern for people, for every ordinary citizen. Meanwhile, they live, work and strive for better life. They harvest grain, smelt steel, produce coal, keeping our economy afloat. They still have some strength but seem to be losing patience", the newspaper writes.

The newspaper carries reports by the Soviet Communist Party press centre from a meeting of the CPSU CC Secretariat, which discussed plans for fuel and energy supplies to the city and the countryside this autumn and winter. The meeting focused on ways to ensure parity of prices between the country's agiculture and other economic branches, as well as on the party's work with veterans' organisations. The straightforwardness of these issues was caused by "a deep concern about the state of affairs in the branchas vital for people's life and needs".

The newspaper carries an interview with Deputy Soviet Minister of the Nuclear Power Engineering and Industry Aleksandr Meshkov.

According to the government's plans, the largest part of equipment to make baby food in the country should have been produced by 1991. However, these plans are almost frustrated.

Reciprocal reproaches and accusations between leaders of the Soviet Ministry of the Nuclear Engineering and Industry and the Department of Baby Food of the Soviet Ministry of Agricultural Production, as well as the delight they take in finding fault with each other are becoming a stumbling block for their good intentions. As a result, 16 plants planned for construction in the Soviet Union still remain on blueprints.

Workers at the Gaz auto works in Nizhniy Novgorod, however, are not idle, waiting for a better life. They consistently solve their problems to go through the time of trials between the past and the future as quickly as possible, PRAVDA correspondent Vasiliy Parfiyonov reports.

The newspaper devotes some materials to an international congress of Russian compatriots to be held in Moscow between August 19-31.

The congress is expected to gather about 800 Russians living abroad.

PRAVDA correspondent V. Andreyev says "We need to expand ties with our countrymen in other countries to revive Russia. People should come to their motherland not merely as guests. There are no obstacles for them now. However, we need self-respect more than anything else now. We must abandon the wasteful practice of pompous events and meet an individual's needs".

The newspaper publishes greeting the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee has sent to the Sixth Congress of the Mozambican Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] Party. The message of greeting expresses confidence that "traditional friendly ties between the Soviet Communist Party and the Frelimo Party will develop".

The newspaper comments on Soviet Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov's recent meeting with his Finnish counterpart Esko Aho in Kostomuksha.

PRAVDA calls the latest Soviet-Finnish deal mutually beneficial and expresses hope that it may help invigorate Soviet-Finnish trade and economic relations, which are at a low ebb now.

PRAVDA observer Nikolay Shishlin muses about the end of the cold war and a future world.

He believes that "entering a new stage of international relations may give us at least two advantages: more solid international support for our reforms to revive and renovate the country, and promote the Soviet Union's creative role in improving and harmonising international relations".

The newspaper also comments on the situation in Yugoslavia and carryies reports about other international events.

Economic

Gorbachev Addresses Cabinet on Economy

PM0908164191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report by TASS observer B. Grishchenko: "Time Does Not Wait"]

[Text] Food, the fuel and energy complex, and finances—these questions were discussed at an enlarged session of the Cabinet of Ministers Presidium under the chairmanship of USSR President M.S. Gorbachev.

USSR Deputy Prime Minister F.P. Senko dwelt on the questions of progress in gathering the harvest and of the situation taking shape with regard to the country's food supply. Speaking of ways to normalize food supplies under conditions of the transition to the market, he proposed for 1992 an option in which, in his view, enhanced responsibility locally is combined with a strengthening of the Union's coordinating functions. In the proposed option the state order remains obligatory for execution by all for whom it is set. Economic liability must be instituted for failure to fulfill it. It is also proposed to widely attract foreign investments to the

agro-industrial complex, above all for the development of the infrastructure with regard to the storage and processing of produce.

Summing up the results of the discussion, the president said, in particular:

"How we will implement the policy of purchases—of grain, above all—is very important. I believe it is necessary to combine two aspects. The regulation of volumes is obligatory here. But the peasant must also be given an interest in return. Everything must be done to ensure that production-technical resources reach the countryside. And the peasant must really feel this. It is necessary to involve collaboration and make use of imported consumer goods for these purposes."

The strengthening of economic incentives in the activity of the agro-industrial complex, the improvement of its provision with material and technical resources, and the realization of other possibilities for ensuring the population's steady food supply must be provided for in a special USSR presidential decree, whose draft has to be prepared as quickly as possible and be submitted to the USSR Cabinet of Ministers for submission to the president.

The submission of the union republic "Grain" and "Protein" programs to the Soviet of the Federation also has to be accelerated in order, on the basis of their realization, to substantially increase production of grain and protein feed and subsequently reduce imports of them.

Then the Cabinet of Ministers Presidium examined the question of the state of affairs regarding fuel and energy resources. Deputy Prime Minister L.D. Ryabev spoke and reported that the total quantity of fuel and energy resources for internal consumption in the country will be at last year's level.

The assessment of the fuel situation failed to convince many people. It was pointed out that the approaches on which the draft resolution on measures to provide the national economy and the population with fuel and energy in the fall and winter period of 1991-1992 is based cannot be adopted in full, as they are underpinned chiefly by the principles of the administrative-edict system of management. In this connection the State Fuel and Energy Commission, in particular, has been entrusted with accelerating, jointly with the republic governments and Union organs, the preparation of proposals to restructure economic relations and improve the organizational structure of management of the fuel and energy complex in accordance with the tasks of the transition to the market.

No less strained a situation has also taken shape in the sphere of finances. Evaluating it, V.Ye. Orlov, head of the Union department, pointed out, in particular, that, despite a certain overall stabilization in May and June, the problem of the budget's implementation remains complex. The slump in the economy and the unilateral actions of a number of republics with regard to the Union budget are having their impact. Certain decisions leading to increased expenditure and a lower income are also having an adverse effect. The proposals submitted by the minister for discussion include the consistent implementation of a tough regime of budget funding in accordance with reduced norms, the active putting into circulation of state securities—short-term and medium-term bonds, above all—the suspension of the launching of social programs with unconditional abstention from the adoption of new ones, and the redistribution of income among the levels of the budget system. It is necessary to find a possibility of using economic means to "tie down" the huge mass of money accumulated by enterprises and to prevent it from swamping the consumer market. Only a unified, concerted policy can keep inflationary processes in check. We have submitted these and other proposals and will discuss them with the republics, the USSR minister of finances reported.

Proposals for organizing an interrepublic committee for foreign investments were also examined at the session. It is proposed that the committee, to be formed by the republics themselves with the participation of Union organs, will reveal their initiative in attracting foreign capital. A draft USSR presidential decree is to be prepared on this question

We are facing two questions, M.S. Gorbachev said, summing up the results of the discussion: political and financial stability. In the political sphere our hopes are pinned on the Union Treaty, the clear allocation of competence between the Union and the republics, and the formation of a power capable of fulfilling its functions more persistently and responsibly. On this basis the war of laws is ended and order and discipline are strengthened.

The second question: How will the problem of financial stabilization in our economy be tackled? Much of what has happened here is real economic populism. Some people try to promise as much as possible, so as to win prestige. And they have taken decisions whose fulfillment we are now having difficulty in sustaining. We should work out a specific philosophy, a style of behavior in an emergency situation, and, guided by this philosophy, pursue a specific political line and formulate a range of essential measures which should be implemented step by step.

What about finances, the credit and monetary system? We acknowledge that we need the market. But what kind of market can you have if, in gross violation of economic logic, we seek to isolate ourselves and want to break up the unity of our finances? Can you seriously talk about many different monetary units in a single country?

Our chosen approaches are prescribed by the logic of the development of economic processes, by the interconnected, integrated nature of our economy. After all, our cooperation links are more strongly developed than in

the EEC. Finances and the money supply only reflect this, and should stimulate it.

The conceptual decisions that have been formulated must be rapidly put into practice in a package of concrete measures, and if necessary further work and thought should be devoted to them, so that they can be submitted to the Federation Council in the next few days. Today we must be clearly answerable to ourselves. There is no getting away from the market, we must enter it together and extricate ourselves from the crisis together—that is the only way (!), nobody is trying to outsmart anyone here, and it is simply not possible to outsmart economics. The main thing is constantly to move forward and to remember: Time will not wait!

USSR First Deputy Prime Minister V.I. Shcherbakov presented a detailed list of concrete measures the purpose of which is to restore the "commodity-money" link. To achieve this, he said, unpopular measures will also be necessary.

Accords agreed within the framework of the preparation of the new Union Treaty ensure an increase in the stability of the Union budget's income base, V.S. Pavlov said. It is necessary right now to find a way to use the consensus formula that has been achieved in order to impose order in the economy, food supplies, fuel supplies, and finances.

A decision was adopted on the expediency of preparing a draft economic agreement between the USSR and the sovereign republics for 1992.

Everything we have arrived at here must be translated to a practical footing, the USSR president stressed in conclusion. We are on the way to the market, and in many respects this has simply predetermined the sum of specific actions.

European Development Bank Delegation Visits

OW0908230291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1626 GMT 9 Aug 91

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" program; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A visit to Kiev today, August 9th, concluded a trip to the Soviet Union by a group of directors from the advisory board of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The delegation held conferences on the condition of the Soviet economy and on the beginning of the bank's activities in the USSR. These conferences were held in the capital of the Ukraine and in Moscow, as reported by "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] in the Department of International Economic Relations in the Foreign Ministry of the USSR.

More concretely, discussions were about the technical help, in the frame of a credit limit for the Soviet Union, which the bank prescribed. The USSR, whose quota at the Bank amounts to 6 percent, can expect to receive a sum of about 30 million dollars.

As the representatives of the Bank explained at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the USSR, the purpose of their trip to the Soviet Union was to find first hand information about Soviet economic reform, so that the advisory board of directors could subsequently ratify the document which decides on the bank's strategy with regard to the Soviet Union. The guests had meetings with the First Deputy Prime Minister of the USSR, V. Shcherbakov, and also with experts from the economics departments of the Soviet Union, Russia, and the Ukraine.

Moscow Presses for Full IMF Membership

OW0908232391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1626 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A delegation from the Internatonal Monetary Fund has concluded a visit to the USSR. At the Department of International Economic Relations at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, the IMF examined its first two-way contract in the new situation which arose as a result of granting the Soviet Union status as an associate member of the IMF. The topic of the discussions held in Moscow was the official request made by the Soviet Union to receive full status in this international financial organization.

The sides, as reported by the Soviet Foreign Ministry, discussed the possible new steps in this direction, and the questions of rendering the Soviet Union technical assistance. In conjunction with the World Bank, whose delegation was in Moscow last week, the IMF is able to help realize Soviet economic reforms through providing expertise in economic projects, training personnel, conducting seminars, and attracting qualified consultants.

As with the World Bank, the Soviets signed no documents with the IMF. The sides did exchange ideas, however, on the possibility of reaching an agreement about technical help for the USSR. At the Soviet Foreign Ministry it is assumed that in one month experts will be able to prepare the corresponding text, after which discussions on this question can begin.

Rumors of U.S. Banknote Withdrawal Refuted

PM0908131691 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 5 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Report by Valeriy Bakarinov]

[Text] [Announcer] "Rumors Versus Facts"—this is the title of a report by our correspondent.

[Bakarinov] Our sensationalists have finally decided to switch their activities to the international sphere. A

rumor is circulating to the effect that the U.S. Government has decided to withdraw old banknotes from circulation and replace them with new ones.

It is a question of these $100 and $50 bills.

While our country's foreign currency exchange seems to determine the actual exchange rate between the ruble and the cherished green notes according to the stars rather than anything else, and while black market dealers are racking their brains how best to exchange fistfuls of our money for a single U.S. banknote, the question has been resolved very simply by secret operators claiming to be close to official circles. According to rumor, the operation is to take place along approximately the same lines as the one in our country. You recall what happened at the beginning of the year? The reaction has been amazing. While this sort of statement would cause a shock on the international exchange, in our country people have simply rushed to hard-currency stores in an effort, metaphorically speaking, to buy a "glass of water" with $100 bills to break them up. We have been through this before, although on that occasion it was a question of large-denomination ruble notes.

However, since, among the agitated population, these rumors are beginning to be attributed to the news media, we have decided to address ourselves to the U.S. Embassy.

I am hoping that the press release obtained from the U.S. Embassy just now will explain many things.

It states that the Department of the Treasury has begun printing U.S. currency using the latest technology to protect against counterfeiting. Computerized printing equipment and advanced color copiers and laser scanners are now used to produce new $100 bills with a new characteristic—a microthread. In a few months' time $50 bills will be produced in the same manner. The improved currency will come into circulation in August or September. The Treasury stresses that it is not planned to withdraw the current bills, and that all the bills in circulation will remain legal tender. And so the new and the current bills will be in circulation at the same time.

Leningrad TV Blamed for Rumors

PM0908133291 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Aug 91 Union Edition p 2

[Report by M. Berger: "Who Will Answer for Currency Jokes?"]

[Text] Alarming information spread throughout the part of the Soviet Union which receives the Leningrad television channel: In connection with the large number of forged bank notes the Americans are changing large denominations, and all in a three-day period.

Legal and illegal holders of $100 bills are in a panic over the report in Leningrad's "Telekuryer" [TV Courier], broadcast last weekend. Specialists are baffled: Has our invaluable experience really come in handy in the West and have U.S. financiers followed the path of Soviet Premier V. Pavlov, who so brilliantly exchanged our big bank notes? There was even a suspicion that the introduction of "Pavlovs" brought a fabulous but carefully concealed economic benefit which the Americans found out about and decided to cash in on, only in dollars.

However, those who have dollars have no time for jokes. Since Monday morning the Vneshekonombank [Bank for Foreign Economic Activity] has been assailed with questions from the most unexpected quarters, including beer stalls. Had someone intended to extract information in such a cunning way about the holders of foreign currency, he would have obtained a great deal.

So, what about the dollars? To exchange or not to exchange? At the editor's request the USSR Vneshekonombank, which has not received any official indications on this subject from the U.S. side, made enquiries at American Express. In their turn they went to the source of the information—Leningrad television—for an explanation. It emerged that our colleagues from "Telekuryer," without waiting for 1 April, were simply joking...

The joke, it must be said, is an uncharitable one, even if it is about foreign currency. Dear colleagues, have mercy on your fellow citizens, crushed by lack of money and inflation, do not touch the last thing they have left (that anyone has)—foreign currency. And the perfunctory sense of responsibility should cease. And furthermore, life and the government are giving considerable grounds for merriment as it is.

Ruling on Customs Duty for Individuals Lifted

PM0908140291 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Aug 91 Union Edition p 2

["Direct Line" report by Valeriy Reshetnikov from the USSR Customs Committee: "Customs Office Changes Its Mind"]

[Text] As of 10 August the USSR Customs Committee is suspending the operation of its own directive on the introduction of increased customs duty rates for goods imported into the country by private individuals.

As you know, on 30 May the USSR Customs Committee published Directive No. 189, introducing new customs duty rates for foreign goods imported by Soviet citizens. These rates, according to the customs office's intention, were to prevent cunning entrepreneurs from deceiving the state by importing goods through passenger channels in the guise of private property, thereby avoiding the payment of import tax. Probably no other document has come under such overwhelming criticism from the press. The governments of a number of republics countermanded the new customs rates as contrary to their economic policy.

Nikolay Yermakov, chairman of the USSR Customs Committee, told IZVESTIYA's correspondent that the decision to suspend Directive No. 189 was not adopted under pressure from anyone. He said that the USSR Law "On Customs Tariffs," which requires duty rates to be coordinated with the sovereign republics, came into force simultaneously with this departmental circular.

The customs committee has distributed to the republics a draft provision on the USSR Customs Tariff Council—representatives of all the republics are to belong to it. Experts will arrive in Moscow 14-15 August to discuss the draft. In three or four months, Nikolay Yermakov said, the new organ will be definitively formed and will set customs duty rates on a collegial basis.

'Critical' Situation in Metallurgy Discussed

PM0708094791 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jul 91 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Is a Sectoral Staff Necessary?"]

[Text] Does the country's metallurgical complex, comprising almost 1,000 autonomous enterprises and organizations, need a sectoral center, and if it does, what should it be like? This question is being discussed at the first congress of directors of enterprises and organizations in the USSR metallurgical industry. It started its work in Moscow 29 July.

A greetings message from USSR President M.S. Gorbachev to the participants in the congress was read out.

Of course, thinking about the sector's future management structure, Minister O.N. Soskovets, and A.T. Kalashnikov, chairman of the recently created Directors' Council under the minister's authority as well as other speakers, could not avoid mentioning the fact that the situation in metallurgy is becoming increasingly critical. Between January and May practically all enterprises reduced the production of the basic type of output in comparison with the corresponding period last year. As a result, the deliveries shortfall since the beginning of the year amounts to 5.7 million tonnes of pig iron, 7 million tonnes of steel, 4.2 million tonnes of finished rolled metal, and much other output.

The main reason is the slackening of cooperation between enterprises in the sector and the fact that many of them are geared to obtaining temporary benefits to the detriment of resolving long-term tasks, for example raising the technical standards of production and the competitiveness of the output. A dramatic situation is emerging as regards the development of the raw materials base in metallurgy. And the lack of an organizational-legal basis for the ministry's activity is making the situation increasingly complex.

The congress was presented with a USSR Ministry of Metallurgy concept on forms of running the sector in the face of the transition to market economy and the sovereignization of republics, as well as an alternative draft elaborated by the Directors' Council.

Agriculture

Stroyev Rejects 'Command' Method in Agriculture

LD0708224191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Text] Today a press-conference entitled "The Peculiarities of and Prospects for the Agrarian Policy of the CPSU at the present stage" was held for Soviet and foreign journalists at the press-center of the CPSU Central Committee. Our correspondent Olga Yermakova was there.

[Begin recording] [Yermakova] Life itself and the situation that has been formed at the food market have determined the topic of this conversation. Yegor Semenovich Stroyev, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Vyacheslav Ivanovich Chernoivanov, the USSR Minister of Agriculture and Food, Academician Bolyus Ignovich Poshkus, Vice-President of the VASKHNIL Academy, and Vladimir Ivanovich Naumov, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food of Russia, came to the meeting with the press. As one of the journalists present noted, the rise of agriculture does not depend on membership of the party. However, today one- fifth of all the members of the CPSU are working in collective and state farms. Undoubtedly, this is a significant force, and the question is whether it is really capable of changing the situation in the agrarian sector and how it is going to do this. That's what Stroyev, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee said, when answering questions.

[Stroyev] The main feature of our programme is economic heterogeneity. The implementation of land reform; the introduction of price parity; the creation of a proper social infrastructure in the countryside; the enhancement of the cultural and intellectual level of the peasants—these aims, plus the defense of the social interests of these sections of the population without prejudice to other categories of Soviet citizens, constitute the basis of our party's agrarian policy. The new approaches presuppose a change in both the style and method which the party employs to influence the tackling of economic issues. The party will continue to pursue its political line above all through communists, through persuading people of the need to go in this direction. To this end, it is important to track and detect in good time the prevailing mood of the peasants and in society at large and to defend their interests actively by political means.

[Yermakova] Yegor Semenovich, what forms of management of agriculture do you regard as the most effective today, if one can talk of managing in the sense of commanding in the first place?

[Stroyev] The best form of management today is of course independence—as much of it as possible, and as wide-scale as possible. There should be no issuing of orders. Nothing should be foisted. And unless we get away from the issuing of commands, if we continue to hang on to this method, we shall never save the agrarian complex. We are now starting to catch the commanding disease again. You have raised a good point. I can tell you straight that the bread-grain situation is becoming more difficult, and once again they are starting to stray into attempts to command. They are not looking at economic levers or ways of reaching a market solution and giving the peasant the opportunity to exchange his output for industrial goods—"links" between town and country, as Lenin used to call it. Instead they want to command again today. So, on the level of the individual, I firmly stick to one view, and this is my deep understanding—as much freedom as possible is needed.

On the other hand, what form of management has already blazed a trail for itself today and is giving the best results? I think it is the agro-combines at rayon level. Why? They make it possible to process thoroughly the primary product. As far as higher levels of management at oblast level are concerned, I think that fewer offices of all sorts resembling bureaucratic excrescences should be set up there. A single managing body should be left attached to the soviets. By and large today associations will no doubt blaze a trail for themselves. They are associations of free producers. This formula is for the moment proceeding, but very slowly, and we shall have to do a very great deal of work on this.

AKKOR Official on Land Allocation

LD1108183891 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1200 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Nikolay Alekseyevich Popov, director general of the Association of Peasants' Holdings and Agricultural Cooperatives of Russia, AKKOR, interview with correspondent Boris Ostakhov; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Popov] The first thing is that the number of farmers is already more than 25,000, and there is a tendency of the rise in the number of farmers.

[Astakhov] Do you mean the number of farmers or the number of holdings?

[Popov] I mean the number of farm holdings. The number of farmers is greater, that is, the number of people involved in this activity. If we speak today about the issue of land being allocated to farmers then one can say that this issue has been solved. We have practically no telephone calls or letters on the matter of land not being allocated. Technical support is the main problem. What have we done in this aspect? There is the instruction from Silayev on the additional allocation of 5,000 tonnes of diesel fuel and 5,000 tonnes of gas from the Council of Ministers reserve. This includes only what has been allocated to the farmers. We have already allocated this, and it has all been transported to those who need it. On the same instruction of the Council of Ministers, 7,000 tractors and 3,000 trucks have been allocated to us for this calender year. I would like to mention one more thing. The farmers have been given 400 combines for harvesting grain crops, 100 potato harvesting combines, and 200 mowers, as well as rakes for use with tractors. [passage omitted]

[Ostakhov] Will you set a small scale processing industry?

[Popov] We have set up a production and commercial center with our own authorized capital, which is engaged in looking for processing lines, equipment, and small scale machinery for use by farmers; mills, shops producing sausages and salami in order to—on the basis of agreements—reproduce them. Then all this is to be supplied to the farmers. But to do all this one needs time. And another thing. We are investing money in machine-building. I was present at the first AKKOR congress and the subject of setting up our own cooperatives—not large-scale machine-building—but those which could produce simple machines in order to stop relying solely on the monopoly of large machine-building enterprises. We have invested R3 million in the Tractor Plant in Lipetsk for the production of LTZ-150's. We are also examining the possibility of investing in Vladimir for the production of tractors, and in the enterprises of Volgograd for the production of T-25's. This is the general outline.

[Ostakhov] Nikolay Alekseyevich. Many farmers have told me that they could easily do without these machines because they are of low power capacity. What they need is the Belorus MTZ-80 and MTZ- 82, which are of universal capacity. The farmers can do anything with their help. [passage omitted]

[Popov] We have an agreement —on Monday, the manager of the Krasnoyarsk Combine Plant is coming to see us—that soon we will receive 700 tractors produced in China. They are popular.

[Ostakhov] Why is the Krasnoyarsk Combine Plant supplying you with tractors?

[Popov] They have an agreement with the Chinese comrades to realize what is produced above plan in China. For the combines they sell in China they get tractors, and in accordance with the agreement concluded with us we receive a first group of 700 tractors.

[Ostakhov] Thank you. I wish you success.

Commentary Views Nationwide Harvest Predictions

LD0708222191 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1910 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Text] The minister for agriculture and foodstuffs, Vyacheslav Chernoivanov, has announced that the Soviet Union's grain harvest this year will be about the same as the average for the five years ending last year.

Which means the country will have enough for its needs. Our commentary has been prepared by Viktor Yenikeyev.

One must live in the Soviet Union to understand the significance of this statement, especially coming at a time when many believed that good news was out of the question. In the past it was the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States that forecast the Soviet grain harvest most reliably. Today there is no reason for Soviet officials to exaggerate predictions. The agriculture minister's forecast follows on the heels of a TV interview in which deputy Prime Minister Shcherbakhov said hunger might become a reality. But to the mind of an ordinary Soviet hunger is out of the question as long as there is grain.

Such thinking reflects not only the squalidness of life today but also the memory of the truly hungry years during World War II. How we ever came to such a state that our welfare depends on the work of the American, or Canadian or another foreign farmer, is not clear to many of us. In the days of Nikita Khrushchev any number of moves were made to stimulate agriculture but with no results. This year too in a bid to increase grain purchases from the farmers the Soviet Government had promised them more machinery, building materials and consumer goods.

As always the farming areas have been hit by floods, droughts and hurricane-force winds. Farms are disastrously short of either harvesters or threshers, or batteries or gasoline. All such familiar signs of our troubled existence. Yet if we are to believe the minister of agriculture and foodstuffs these won't prevent us from taking in a grain crop as good as the average for the five years ending last year.

The restructuring is going forward very slowly in the countryside. We continue to lose about half of what we produce during transportation or processing. The agreement signed with the United States during the Moscow summit covering cooperation in food distribution may help to rectify the situation. But we must learn to rely on ourselves, not on outsiders. We have to learn thrift and enterprise. And the history of this country shows that we can. What is even more encouraging than the prediction of our minister of agriculture is the attitude that is spreading in the countryside, as conversations I've had in recent months with farmers around Moscow and in Siberia indicate. Many said it was time to rely on themselves and not on the government.

Scientific

Paper's Negative Views on Nuclear Safety Disputed

LD0908155691 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2300 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Text] The Chernobyl nuclear disaster is one of the most crucial catastrophes in the history of the world civilization. After it the development of nuclear engineering in the Soviet Union was actually brought to a standstill. The public campaign against nuclear plants played a big part in that. Yet latest conclusions drawn by international experts have failed to confirm part of the allegations advanced against nuclear plants.

Today the work has stopped at some nuclear plants that are still under construction. Some operating nuclear plants are being closed down and some newly-built plants are prevented from being put into operation.

In the meantime the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA quotes French experts on nuclear energy as saying that the danger of nuclear plants for the environment has been slightly exaggerated. Prior to this independent experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency have been keeping an eye for 18 months on a large group of people affected by radiation in the Chernobyl plant zone and have been checking the effectiveness of protection measures. In their opinion the concentration of (?radio-nucleites) in drinking water and in most of foods [as heard] is presently lower than is allowed by international norms. A short half life has led to the disappearance of radioactive iodine.

Some leading nuclear experts of Austria, Canada, Finland, France, Japan, Britain, the United States, and the Soviet Union working at the Atomic Energy Agency see the main task in persuading people who are treating nuclear energy with distrust. But there are some who are utterly against the use of nuclear power. They put forward two arguments against it—ecological and economic.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA quotes them as saying that nuclear energy is expensive and harmful. This group of people rejects the conclusions drawn by experts of the Atomic Energy Agency, the most presitigious organization in that field.

The Soviet weekly ARGUMENTS AND FACTS, for example, has carried statistics showing that the sickness rate has gone up sharply in the Gomel Region. Experts claim that in many cases negative statistics can be disproved by professionals. In their opinion the damage done to the health of some examined Chernobyl residents does not exist or can hardly be established.

French experts carried out recently similar examinations in the closed city of Chelyabinsk-65. Forty years ago an atomic reactor (?Mayav) began operating there. According to the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA the reactor has done an enormous ecological damage over this period. After (?carrying out an expertise) on this subject the French experts told a news conference on Chelyabinsk-65 that though Soviet experts lagged behind in certain technologies they carry out their work in the field of nuclear power in keeping with world security standards. They attributed the damage done by the reactor to the difficult time of the post-war (?world). The French experts called on the Soviet authorities and the

public to think over about the country's future once again before closing down nuclear plants and halting their building.

It seems that the government will have to make a choice between the demands of the public and the conclusions drawn by the experts. The stakes are high—people's health and the opportunity to deal with the present energy crisis.

In view of the current conclusions made by international experts it is most likely that debates around nuclear engineering will be put on a more professional plane. Arguments advanced by the public will give way to more substantiated conclusions nuclear experts are arriving at.

Scientific Ship To Investigate Sunken Submarine

LD1008160491 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The science vessel Akademik Mstyslav Keldysh left the quay of Kaliningrad marine port today on its next expedition. It has on board two deep-water bathyscapes, Mir-1 and Mir-2.

Scientists of the USSR Academy of Sciences are setting off to the place where the Soviet nuclear submarine Komsomolets perished. It is intended to raise it to the surface. This is already the second expedition to the Komsomolets. During the first one, the firm conclusion was reached that the submarine does not represent any radiation danger to the environment.

Now the scientists are to work out recommendations for raising the boat, which is scheduled for 1999.

Military

Defense Industry Minister on Conversion Programs

LD1008221791 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1515 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Interview granted "in his study" by USSR Defense Industry Minister Boris Mikhailovich Belousov to Kim Kukhalev; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Belousov] For us, defense industry workers, conversion is both a strategy for the coming years, and I would say, in the present conditions, it is also our pain. [passage omitted] Our ministry accounts for a large volume of consumer goods. Before the end of 1991, we will have produced consumer goods worth over R13.5 million. And if we think of the types of goods, there are more than 3,000 types and categories of consumer goods. This includes hi-tech household equipment, motor and radio technology, as well as chemical products. Speaking in terms of figures, we can say that this year our ministry will produce 923,000 radios and tape recorders; 2.75 million refrigerators—which accounts, by the way, for 44 percent of the total amount of refrigerators produced in our country; 2.65 million pieces of photographic and film equipment; 660,000 motor cycles and scooters—which accounts for 55 percent of the total amount of those produced in the country; 3.6 million bicycles—49 percent of the total amount in the country; 3.4 million watches and clocks; and a great deal more. This year, we have increased our output of washing machines by 173,000 compared to 1990; vacuum cleaners by 425,000; kitchen equipment by 150,000; cameras by 200,000' electric irons by 400,000; bicycles by 180,000; and light bulbs by 24 million. [passage omitted]

[Kukhalev] All these consumer goods; do they all stay on the internal market, or do you export any of them?

[Belousov] Well, we do export quite a lot. For instance, film and photographic equipment, a vast amount, up to 40 percent, is being exported. We also export our refrigerators, among other things. We sell them to Italy and some countries of the Near East.

[Kukhalev] May I ask you a kind of man-in-the-street question, that of someone who is not sufficiently informed. Why do you sell your refrigerators abroad if there is a great shortage of them here? You cannot find them anywhere.

[Belousov] I can explain why. In order to ensure increased production of, say, refrigerators, you need specific technologies and equipment. Our industry does not produce the whole amount of equipment required. This is why we have to purchase the equipment, and so we have contracts in accordance with which we export the refrigerators, while the buyers abroad provide us with technologies and equipment. In this way we both increase the volumes of production and improve quality of our consumer goods.

[Kukhalev] We are now approaching the issue of international conversion. Do you have plans for its development?

[Belousov] I think we should first of all concentrate on our internal programs and plans. We certainly have them, and this is not a random decision, but a whole system. We developed it as far back as 1988. I must tell the listeners that the enterprises and organizations of the Defense Industry Ministry were the first to embark on the program of conversion of military industries. And today, we implement our conversion at a more profound level than other ministries. All this can of course be explained by the specific character of our production: That is, as far as our programs are concerned. We drafted them, discussed them at our meetings, and adopted them at the collegium. They were later approved by the government. Now we have already achieved specific results. This year along the volume of our specialized production, if I may call it so, is being reduced by 25 percent. And all this must be replaced by civil production in order to guarantee the work of production teams and this formation of their social funds, which is economically valid.

As to international conversion, today we are already addressing our colleagues abroad with our programs and proposals. Specifically, we have established contacts and are working at programs for the implementation of conversion in our sphere with American companies and banks. We have similar ideas as far as our European partners are concerned. Specifically, the "Conversion-91" program will take place in Italy in September, and we will be presenting our proposals and our ideas. We have also approached Finland. [passage omitted]

[Kukhalev] [passage omitted] I have another question for you. This reorientation of production toward new types of products. Does it damage our defense potential? Does conversion weaken our defense capability?

[Belousov] You must know that our conversion programs are linked with our doctrine of defense sufficiency. Therefore there should not be any damage. Naturally, our main task has always been, and still is the design and production of military technology and weapons. We now have a smaller amount of funds from the state budget for the production of military equipment and weapons. So what is the way out? There is only one way out—we must, by using smaller amounts of money and smaller numbers of units, which are regulated by treaties—produce equipment which is more up-to-date, high quality equipment which would solve the same tasks by smaller numbers but higher quality, as the saying goes.

Arbatov Quits Editorial Panel of WWII History

PM0908135391 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 91 p 1

[Report by A. Kosulnikov: "Will the Detachment Not Notice the Loss of a Soldier?"]

[Text] It has become known that Academician Georgiy Arbatov, director of the Institute of Canada and the United States, has parted with the Main Editorial Commission of the new edition of the history of the Great Patriotic War. Of his own volition, as the saying goes. This desire did not arise just like that: Having studied the stenographic record of the commission's latest session, Georgiy Arkadyevich decided that it was impossible to create anything worthwhile in such company.

"And what would you have me do?" the academician said in a telephone conversation. "The commission was set up some time ago, at the decision of the CPSU Central Committee, which at that time was for us tantamount to an order. Orders were not discussed. I cannot say that I have taken the most active part in the commission's work; however, reviews were prepared in our institute on two drafts of the text of the first volume. Let me say straightaway that both drafts are powerfully tainted with the spirit of the old times—indeed, they are simply quite Stalinist in content.

"And today I simply asked myself the question: If serious, self-respecting people are writing the history of the Great Patriotic War, then why should such an army of distinguished censors, which is what the Main Editorial Commission has become, watch over their work? On the other hand, would it not be better to hand over such responsible work to professional historians? Or is it that only the Ministry of Defense has the right to make judgments about the last war. But the weakest goes to the wall. The same collective of writers is continuing work on the future edition, and another collective watches them like a hawk... I would be very much opposed to my name appearing on the title page of this 10-volume publication, inasmuch as I have no remaining illusions regarding its quality and thrust."

Well, it should be recorded: After the stormy departure of Dmitriy Volkogonov and now the "quiet" statement of Georgiy Arbatov—who, incidentally, called on all civilian members of the commission to follow his example—few hopes remain that we will be able to familiarize ourselves with a genuine, warts-and-all, academic history of the Great Patriotic War in this decade.

Military Reform Center To Be Registered

LD0708152391 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1230 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Text] In the next few days in Moscow a new public organization, the Military Reform Center, will be officially registered. It has been set up by the Shield [Shchit] Union and Military for Democracy group. The center's main tasks include making independent expert examinations of laws concerning military departments. Reporting this to a correspondent of the RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY, Vitaliy Urazhtsev, chairman of the Shield Union, noted that the center's plans also include studying the experience of states with a professional army and the search for ways of changing the Soviet Army on to such a basis.

Estonia

Government Meets; Savisaar Departs for Moscow

LD1208103891 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 0900 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] The government is in session at Toompea, but the Baltic News Service reports that Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar has left for Moscow to have a business meeting with USSR Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov. Topics for discussion are as yet unknown. The USSR Cabinet of Ministers will meet in Moscow today, with Kalju Muurissepp, Estonian deputy representative in Moscow, participating on the Estonian side.

Supreme Soviet Board Reviews Parliamentary Agenda

OW0908233691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1900 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Director of the Estonian Supreme Soviet's press service Tnu Kaljumae [name as received] told BF [BALTFAX] that the August 9 sitting of the board of the Estonian Supreme Soviet discussed issues connected with the session of the Estonian Parliament due to open August 12. It was decided to suggest that the Supreme Soviet put two items on the agenda: a draft law on investments, a second reading of the law on land, changes to the income tax law, etc. The director of the press service emphasized, however, that the board's suggestions are no more than recommendations and "cardinal changes may be made" to the agenda on the plenary sitting.

BF learned from well-informed sources in the Estonian Supreme Soviet that the defense law (the creation of Estonia's own armed forces) will not be on the agenda as the republican government suggested postponing the discussion of this issue till October.

According to BF, the board of the Supreme Soviet did not received any proposals in writing on including on the agenda of a no-confidence motion to the current Estonian Government under Edgar Savisaar. However, observers say that "the issue regarding putting this on the agenda may be raised even at the first plenary sitting."

At the end of the previous session in July, 26 delegates demanded the resignation of Savissar's government, but the question was postponed till August.

Latvia

Republic Parliamentarian Opposes Union Treaty

LD1008194291 Riga Radio Riga International in Latvian 0430 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] [Announcer] Is the equal rights communist minority faction in the Parliament of Latvia, shortly before the signing by several republics of the new Union treaty offered by the USSR president, so very convinced that Latvia also must conclude this treaty? Colleague Imants Austrins comments:

[Austrins] Mikhail Gorbachev has announced that the signing of the new Union treaty will take place in several stages, and some republics will sign it at the end of August. I requested that Sergejs Dimanis, leader of the parliament's equal rights opposition faction, comment on this situation on Latvian Radio. Until now the deputies of this faction emphasized the necessity of participating in the course of preparing the new treaty, and called for it to be signed. Sergejs Dimanis, about the situation, at the moment.

[Begin recording] [Dimanis] Life proceeds forward, and also our opinions change on this question. By attentively reading the last variant of the Union treaty, we understand that it is absolutely of no use for anything. But here, it appears, are objective reasons. I think that now, in general, the Union treaty cannot be written as an acceptable document, because life has not yet shown what we can write into this document. In my opinion the text of such a treaty can be written only when we get out of the economic dead end, and depending on how we would do it, one or another text of the Union treaty is developing only with a sole kind of necessity in order to put a brake on the collapse of the Union structures, because in such an event, a too powerful chaos would develop. In as much as I understand, Gorbachev endeavors to put a brake on this process of chaos. I do not think that this treaty can be a serious document for forming a new Union. I do not see it.

In the opinion of the faction, it would be necessary to sign what we call an eastern version of the Treaty of Rome. This concerns an economic treaty of the Union, which could be signed by all the republics and individual autonomies of Russia that also have a claim to the status of a Union republic—something similar to the treaty which forms the basis of the economic integration of Western Europe. And what kind of political superstructures would form upon these economic foundations? I am not yet able to tell at present. This will be shown by life. This has to be looked at in future.

[Austrins] How would you comment on the (?matter) that the Ukraine is being left to the last stage, knowing that there could be serious complaints on the part of the Ukraine?

[Dimanis] The Ukraine has adopted a resolution to sign the Union treaty only when the constitution is adopted, and only after that to sign the Union treaty. The question is being postponed to the end of the year, if not even to next year. I do not see what significance such a partial treaty would have, other than only new confusion. Right away the question arises: What status have those who have not signed the treaty? This means that they are the component parts of some kind of a mythical unitary state which has, let us say, remained outside this new treaty

from as early as from 1920. Yes? But perhaps these republics are already as it were outside the USSR, well, but also this would be, well, very kind of, well, you see, all kinds of things can be said, can't they? [sentence as heard] But a unified economic territory, after all, also binds the republics (?anew). Therefore, to say that the republics which have not signed are outside the USSR, as it were, would not be possible. As from the juridical, so from the political and from the economic viewpoint, it appears to me that Gorbachev is rushing. In my opinion, without this treaty, the Union will not collapse in such a way as perhaps the national movements, the radical or, partially, even the current wing, would want, because the Union is, after all, held together by the economy and by many another things. [end recording]

Militia Detachments Elimination Decision Denied

LD1008065491 Riga Radio Riga International in Latvian 0430 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Some republic newspapers have spread unchecked information about a decision adopted at a closed session of the government to eliminate by force the Riga Special Purpose Militia Detachments of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, which is known for the countless transgressions against the law committed in the course of the last year. The official establishments of power have, however, categorically denied such an irresponsible assertion. The advisor to the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia on security, [name indistinct] has said that no sessions of the government have discussed this issue. There can be no talk of using force in the solution to this problem. The Government of Latvia, as previously, believes this problem has to be tackled by way of talks.

Joint Timber Venture With Swedish Firm Reported

OW1008223691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1630 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Deputy Chairman of the Latvian Government Arnis Kalnins and Latvian Forestry Minister Karlis Banis are to leave for Sweden next week to discuss setting up a joint venture for timber processing on the Latvian territory with the Swedish "VINPE AB" company.

Mr. Banis told BF [BALTFAX] that the Latvian Government is preparing a state program "The Latvian Forest" on the industrial use of deciduous timber and is interested in attracting foreign investment. In the words of the minister, the main problem of the Latvian timber industry is the shortage of necesssary equipment and techniques of timber processing. Currently Latvia is unable to produce high-quality timber and, therefore, faces serious difficulties in exporting timber products. Rich in deciduous timber, Latvia exports nearly 5 million cubic meters of timber a year, but in future intends to double that figure.

Mr. Banis said that the proposal to set up the joint venture with the Swedish side to provide sawing equipment, had been made by the Latvian agricultural firm "Daugava". The first such joint venture will be created in the town of Ekabpils.

The minister pointed out that if the two sides are satisfied with the results of cooperation, the joint venture will possibly extend its activities to the northern part of Latvia, the richest in timber.

After visiting Sweden, a group of Latvian experts will dicsuss the possibility of the Latvian Government's participation in the joint venture as a shareholder.

Republic 'Free Market' Institute To Be Set Up

OW1008135591 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1300 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The newspaper "DIENA" reports that chairman of the Latvian Liberal Party G. Lansmanis and adviser on foreign affairs to the Norwegian Party of Progress J. Snoen have signed a protocol on setting up the Latvian Institute of Free Market in Riga.

The Norwegian governmental foundation for aid to Eastern Europe has alloted as the first step $2.000 to the institute. The institute has also received from Norway books on economics, privatization mechanism, introduction of free prices, etc. as a gift. The institute is expected to begin operating immediately.

J. Snoen has become Chairman of the Latvian Institute of Free Market.

Lithuania

Statement Issued on Medininkai Investigation

LD1008004291 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1300 GMT 9 Aug 91

["Statement by the Governmental Commission of the Republic of Lithuania"—read by announcer]

[Text] The governmental commission of the Republic of Lithuania investigating the 31 July 1991 incident during which Lithuanian customs and border officials on duty at the Medininkai border protection post were killed or wounded and investigating the circumstances of the explosion in Vilnius on Sapiega Street [word indistinct] adjacent to the Vilnius Soviet Military Unit Headquarters No. 3404 has familiarized itself with the Soviet Union Ministry of Internal Affairs, Committee for State Security, and Ministry of Defense statement issued on 7 August 1991. This statement attests that not a single governing body of these departments participated in the murders committed at the Medininkai Border Protection Post.

The governmental commission notes that no basis exists for trusting this declaration, since these Soviet Union departments and the Procuracy of the Soviet Union have concealed the culprits of the 13 January killings in Vilnius, are continuing to spread disinformation and ignoring the signed agreement, and are not starting a joint investigation with the Procuracy of the Republic of Lithuania.

The representatives of the Soviet Union's Procuracy and the Internal Affairs Ministry's representatives are not rendering concrete assistance to the law protection institutions of the Republic of Lithuania that are investigating the Medininkai murders. They are not fulfilling many of the assignments and are dragging out and undermining the investigation.

The leadership of the Soviet Union has, to date, failed to issue a directive for the return of the state buildings of the Republic of Lithuania that were seized in January 1991.

The Soviet Union's Ministry of Internal Affairs, ignoring the official and verbal agreements with the Lithuanian Republic's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Government, on 21 June 1991 issued Law No. 199, on the basis of which attempts are made to establish alternative structures to the transport police in Lithuania and in other Baltic states.

The Soviet Union's Ministry of Internal Affairs fails to disperse the formations under its direct control of the Riga and Vilnius special purpose militia detachment units that are conducting open terror in the Baltic states and (?continues to support them).

At the beginning of this year, the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs discontinued its arms supply to the the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania. It confiscated the reserves of arms within the Lithuanian Ministry of Internal Affairs and has not returned them to date.

The willfullness of the Soviet Army continues. On the night of 23 July in Vilnius Rayon, Soviet soldiers seized some firefighting equipment belonging to the Fire Protection Department of the Lithuanian Ministry of Internal Affairs. They are not preparing to return it.

Therefore, the governmental commission is forced to state that the leadership of the Soviet Union is not interested in an objective investigation of either the bloody murders in January or those on 31 July at the Medininkai Border Protection Post.

The trust in the leadership of the Soviet Union is also diminished by the fact that, in recent days, additional paratroop units have been secretly dispatched to Lithuania by plane.

The statement is signed by Vaisvila, chairman of the governmental commission.

Landsbergis' Appeal to Soviet Army's Lithuanians

LD0908202491 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] An appeal by Vytautas Landsbergis, chairman of the Supreme Council of Lithuania:

Lithuanians and young men from Lithuania serving in the Soviet Army. You must not take part in any punitive actions against anyone of the USSR nation or republic. Remember how the defenders of your homeland, Lithuania, were killed in Vilnius, in January, and in Medininkai on 31 July.

Remember how Boris Yeltsin appealed to the young men of Russia, in January, warning them not to raise their hands against the Baltic people.

Remember your mothers, and reflect on what you will tell them upon your return.

Cast aside the service, which is nonobligatory for you, and return to just work and stand in defense of Lithuania.

We have read an appeal by Vytautas Landsbergis, chairman of the Supreme Council of Lithuania.

Further on Landsbergis' Appeal

OW1008140791 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1300 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Council Vytautas Landsbergis have appealed to all Lithuanians serving in the Soviet Army not to take part in "punitive actions against any people of Soviet Union".

The appeal published Friday says: "Remember that defenders of your Motherland Lithuania were killed in Vilnius in January 1991 and at the Medininkai customs post on July 31. Remember that Boris Yeltsin called on the Russian youth not to fight against the Baltic peoples. Remember your mothers and think what you will tell them upon your return."

Mr. Landsbergis has urged the Lithuanian youth to give up military service in the Soviet Army, "return to peaceful work" and "rise up in defense of Lithuania".

Official Cites 'Vesti' on Medininkai Witnesses

LD0908200791 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0909 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Report by Correspondent Virgis Maciulis]

[Excerpt] As you know, Parliament is in recess until 22 August. However, Rita Dapkute, director of the Information Bureau, conducts briefings several times per

week. This morning she commented briefly on yesterday's "Vesti" television broadcast, during the course of which the existence of witnesses to the 31 July tragedy in Medininkai was reported.

Rita Dapkute stated that indeed there are some individuals who claim to have observed some armed men near the post that night. However, our procuracy is not revealing the details [word indistinct], since that may hinder the investigation.

Rita Dapkute relayed to the journalists a request by the Interior Ministry leadership not to create various versions concerning the Medininkai murders, and to wait for the conclusion of the investigation, since much diverse material is indeed being written currently about the tragedy. [passage omitted]

Media Urged Not To Comment on Border Slayings

OW1008004491 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1900 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In a joint statement the Lithuanian General Prosecutor's Office and Interior Ministry have urged the mass media not to comment on the July 31 killings of the seven border guards at the Medininkai customs post. The statement points out that some mass media have lately made public unconfirmed reports and even rumours about the tragic incident. That misleads public opinion and hampers an objective investigation. The information about the investigation will be provided by officials from the Lithuanian General Prosecutor's Office and the Interior Ministry, the statement stresses.

Premier Warns Soviet Leaders of 'Armed Putsches'

OW0908145091 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1415 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Lithuanian Prime Minister, Gediminas Vagnorius, has made a statement, in which he warns the Soviet leaders that, "if more indulgence is to be shown for organisers of dangerous activities, the tragic event in Medininkai may be followed by armed antigovernment putsches, both in the USSR and in the Baltic republics".

The Lithuanian Premier calls upon the leaders of the Soviet Union and those republics which "are on the way to democracy" to take all possible measures to stop violence.

Situation in Republic Reportedly 'Heating Up'

PM0908160591 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 9 Aug 91 p 2

["Our Correspondent" V. Zavorovskiy report: "The Witness Will Live"]

[Text] Vilnius—Yesterday I saw a video recording: A wounded customs officer was lying in a hospital ward. He reacted to someone's voice and gave signs that he understood the questions. He is under guard. The Lithuanian Government is giving the mass media limited access to any information about him. Nonetheless RESPUBLIKA announced that he is having difficulty in swallowing food due to a bullet wound in the head, but he is nonetheless eating dairy produce and fruit. They are careful with questions about that night because the guy gets agitated and irritable. T. Shyarnas is being treated not only for a head wound but also for a knife wound in the side and a broken bone in the lower body. These no longer pose any danger to his health but Tomas lost a great deal of blood from the knife wound.

The investigation is taking its course. There is the traditional response from the Lithuanian General Prosecutor's Office: "The criminals have still not been found," while the Lithuanian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Prosecutor's Office and representatives of the USSR Prosecutor's Office cannot be contacted. In turn, the Lithuanian KGB has protested at the charges of complicity in the killing leveled against it. The Vilnius OMON [special purpose militia detachment] commander has still not found the time to drop in at the Lithuanian Prosecutor's Office; on the other hand, he is keen to meet with journalist friends. A USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs group headed by Major General A. Kotlyarov is working with OMON. In particular, it is becoming clear why OMON men from Riga visited Vilnius that night.

Shots once again rang out in Medininkai at night—an investigation experiment was being carried out.

It seems that the situation in the republic is heating up. It was announced on Wednesday that a Front of Independence of the Nation has been set up in Kaunas, currently including local branches of right-wing national parties and movements. Although few in numbers and peaceable, their actions are hard to predict if you consider recent events in Vilnius. There has already been a report of a fatal outcome to a Soviet Army soldier's going "AWOL." Here are the details: At roughly 0320 hours two drunks in military uniform found themselves near the "Draguiste" Hotel. When they failed to get into an automobile in the parking lot, they started breaking the aerial. A hotel worker summoned police staffer V. Lukyanenko. He was shot while attempting to arrest the hooligans. One soldier attacked the policeman in an attempt to seize his pistol and was wounded in the chest during the scuffle. He died en route to the hospital.

The outcome of Vilnius OMON man A. Voronetskiy's pyrotechnic "trickery" is also revealing. Visiting a former colleague, he decided to test a homemade bomb in Ukmerge. He found a target—the bus station. There were fortunately no casualties but he gave people a good scare. The rayon court sentenced him to two years as punishment.

Meanwhile events began to revolve around the OMON barracks in Vilnius. Under the slogan "They Are Our Saviors and Support", supporters of the Committee of Citizens of the USSR—yes, there is such a body—gathered here on Thursday. Lithuanians plan to picket the barracks this evening. For God's sake let them disperse peacefully.

Pickets To Demand OMON Withdrawal in Vilnius

OW0908151291 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1415 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In Vilnius today, members of Sajudis and other organisations set up an encampment opposite the base of the city branch of OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment]. They demand the withdrawal of all OMON units from the republic. The picketing will probably go on for three days.

In the same place yesterday there was a meeting of those who wish the OMON forces to stay in Lithuania. They condemned the attempts to put the blame for the incident at the Medininkai customs checkpoint on July 31, when seven police and customs officers were killed, on OMON.

The commander of the Vilnius OMON branch, Boleslav Makutynovich, has told a correspondent of REFAK, an Estonian news agency, that nearly all officers in the branch are looking for the murderers. They have some information already, which they have offered to the Lithuanian Ministry of the Interior, but the latter, he said, has refused to accept it. The information has been given to a group of investigators from the USSR Ministry of the Interior, which has arrived from Moscow.

The press office of the Lithuanian Government has informed BF [BALTFAX] that a member of the Vilnius OMON branch spoke on the military-occupied Lithuanian television yesterday, claiming that the OMON command had been informed about subversive acts being planned against OMON.

The Lithuanian Government had made an official statement today to the effect that, if the OMON command does have any such information, it should give it to the Ministry of the Interior and the public prosecutor's office of the Lithuanian Republic, which will take care to thwart any such acts. Otherwise, the responsibility will have to be borne by the OMON command.

Vilnius Anti-OMON Rally Detailed

LD0908201891 Moscow TASS in English 1915 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Kazis Uscila]

[Text] Vilnius August 9 TASS—"OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] police out", such is the slogan of picketers who began to assemble at the end of the working day around the base of the Vilnius unit of OMON elite militia of the USSR Interior Ministry today. "A peaceful rally of protest", as the rally was described by its sponsor, the Sejm of the Sajudis movement, is planned to last three days. Today's evening will be devoted to the assembly of the participants in the protest and the construction of a tent city around the base. The main functions will begin on Saturday and a large protest rally is planned for Sunday.

OMON militia is regarded as a source of constant tension in Lithuania. Many media and a number of politicians blame it for the explosions in Lithuania and raids on border posts.

It is asserted that precisely OMON police is to blame for a brutal killing of eight policemen and customs officials in Medininkai in the early hours of July 31.

The author of the slogan "OMON police out" is Vytautas Landsbergis, president of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet. He shouted this slogan last Saturday when the victims of the Medininkai raid were buried. After that, the Lithuanian leader sent a telegramme to the USSR First Deputy Premier Vitaliy Doguzhiyev, asking him if the OMON unit will be withdrawn from the Lithuanian territory within a fortnight.

The organisers of today's action declare that its main purpose is to ensure that OMON police is withdrawn from Lithuania. Meanwhile, Major Leonid Fedchenko, deputy commander of the Vilnius OMON, told TASS that the picket is held to "whip up tension and to prolong the stay of the present Lithuanian Parliament and Government in office".

Up to 1,000 participants in the picket gathered near the OMON base by seven p.m. and more were arriving. The atmosphere of the picketers' camp is calm and peaceful. Quite a large number of police observe the order, but their interference is not needed.

Inside the barbed wire fences are armoured carriers. Armed OMON policemen are in front of the building and on its roof. Signs fastened to the fence say that fire will be opened if anyone gets inside the fence.

The anthems of the USSR and Lithuania, music blare from loudspeakers fastened to walls of the building and to pine trees.

A rally in support of the OMON unit was held on Thursday outside the entrance to the OMON base. Several hundred people gathered for the rally.

More on Vilnius Anti-OMON Rally

LD1008120191 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0600 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] A small tent city has sprung up at the Vilnius recreation area in Valakampiai. This is how the Lithuanian Sajudis-organized, three-day protest action against

the predatory special USSR militia unit, OMON, commenced. Its goal is a demand that OMON get out of Lithuania.

The participants in the action, who come from all over Lithuania, spent last night by an open bonfire.

The main event—a protest meeting—is planned for Sunday.

Vilnius OMON Base Protest Continues

LD1008195291 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 10 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A TASS correspondent reports from Vilnius: The protest picket at the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs Vilnius OMON [special purpose militia detachment] base, mounted since yesterday by Sajudis, is continuing. At 1100 today, those taking part gathered at the entrance to the base, carrying Lithuanian state flags and placards. They appealed to the OMON men not to spill the blood of innocent people, and called for the unit to be withdrawn from Vilnius.

Groups of armed OMON men can be seen constantly inside the camp, on roofs, and in buildings within the base. They make no contact with the pickets. Military hardware stands approximately 100 meters from the barbed wire fence.

Demonstration Peaceful, To End 11 Aug

LD1108014191 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2004 GMT 10 Aug 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast—read by announcer]

[Text] The special purpose militia detachment get out [OMON-Von] action will end by 1700 tomorrow. A ring of demonstrators will surround the OMON headquarters in Vilnius.

Sajudis representatives told us that the action is taking place peacefully. Music is being played. The demonstrators are singing folk songs and the OMON staff are trying to drown them out with light music played on tape recorders and relayed through loudspeakers.

Communication with Lithuania was broken off today, so we did not receive the video report by our Lithuanian correspondents. I hope you will see it tomorrow.

Anti-OMON Demonstration Ends Peacefully

LD1108185891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1756 GMT 11 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Kazis Uscila]

[Text] Vilnius, 11 August—The participants in a meeting held here this evening have sent an open letter to the USSR president, in which they demand the immediate withdrawal of OMON. [special purpose militia detachments] The meeting was the culmination of a three-day protest held outside the USSR Interior Ministry's OMON base. The protest was organized by Sajudis.

During it the participants accused OMON of "terrorism." They handed a representative of the unit a petition calling on its members "not to be a blind instrument in the hands of criminals" and warning that their actions "would have to be answered for in accordance with the law." There was no shortage of more juicy "epithets" in the speeches, aimed not just at OMON but also local "enemies" who dare to criticise the actions of the Lithuanian authorities.

The participants in the meeting also approved a letter to Vitaliy Doguzhiyev, USSR first deputy prime minister, who heads the USSR delegation appointed for talks with a similar delegation from Lithuania. The letter expresses hope that the "occupied Lithuanian television and radio facilities will be returned" by 10 September. "If this does not happen," it goes on, "a campaign of non-violent mass resistance, aimed at the return of the occupied installations, will commence in Lithuania."

After the ending of the protest, a TASS correspondent spoke by telephone to Major (Militia) Leonid Fedchenko, deputy commander of the Vilnius OMON of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs. Fedchenko said that "there were no excesses" during it. At the same time he asserted that on 10 August, at about 1800, "three shots were fired at the OMON base, but nobody was hurt."

Up to 5,000 people attended today's meeting.

Report of 'Deadly, Dangerous' Freight Shipments

LD1108110691 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 0100 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Deadly freight is being shipped through Lithuania. TUVOS AIDAS has published a brief news item which notes that almost every day trains carrying military equipment, explosive and flammable materials, nuclear warheads, and yellow phosphorus, pass through the train station, located in the vicinity of Klaipeda.

During the first half of this year some 4,448 rail cars with explosive materials, five with dangerous loads, 4,309 with technical equipment, and 2,794 with military equipment, have passed by way of the international sea-crossing route from Germany through Klaipeda.

During July 2-16, the transport was particularly intensive.

Some of the rail cars were marked with the letter P, on (?schedules), which signifies the transport of particularly dangerous freight. Rail officials are precluded from stopping trains carrying such freight, since an explosion capable of reducing an entire city to ruins could occur.

According to LIETUVOS AIDAS: Railroad workers are saying that the people of Lithuania do not even suspect that nearly every day their lives hang by a thread.

Medical personnel have no access to information about what chemical and toxic materials are being transported by rail. Instructions issued ten years ago by the USSR Ministry of Communications, which are still being followed by Lithuanian medical personnel, only serve to dupe them. Klaipeda is under threat of real danger, the state newspaper LIETUVOS AIDAS writes.

Rightist Political Forces Meet in Vilnius

LD1108020791 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The third session of the Consultative Seimas, uniting the rightist political forces, took place in Vilnius today. The political situation in Lithuania and tasks for the Consultative Seimas were discussed.

In his report today, Antanas Terleckas, leader of the Lithuanian Liberty League, called participants' attention to the errors committed by the Lithuanian Sajudis during Supreme Council elections and the mistakes of politicians following the declaration of Lithuania's independence. He emphasized that all hopes should currently be directed toward the nation, which must demand openness in Supreme Council work, while a patriotic spirit should dominate the Supreme Council itself. The nation must demand the publication of material concerning the criminal offenses of communist deputies.

Independent Lithuanian Television was not overlooked, either. Recently it has been sharply attacked by the rightist forces because of its so-called communist tendencies. Regret was voiced that the administration of Lithuanian Radio and Television, and the director of Lithuanian television, have thus far not been dismissed, as was demanded in an earlier Consultative Seimas resolution.

Other speakers criticized the privatization policy and the course of land reform implementation. Various proposals were made and a resolution was adopted.

Vagnorius, Dobravolskas Meet Kaunas Workers

PM0808103191 Vilnius EKHO LITVY in Russian 27 Jul 91 p 1

[R. Zbormirskas report: "The Main Thing Is Concord and Awareness"]

[Text] Prime Minister G. Vagnorius of the Lithuanian Republic and his deputy A. Dobravolskas visited Kaunas 25 July. At the head enterprise of the "Banga" Lithuanian Television Equipment Production Association they met with representatives of the labor collective.

In his speech the prime minister devoted much attention to questions of building a democratic rule-of-law state. Unfortunately, he pointed out, not all of the republic's inhabitants perceive democracy the way it must be perceived. Laws are frequently violated.

Questions of the radical economic reform occupied a special place in the speech. Following the implementation of decisive steps, in G. Vagnorious' opinion, people will begin feeling changes for the better as early as next year. But now it is necessary to endure all the difficulties and adversities and worthily overcome the difficult transitional stage. "Our strength lies in people's awareness," G. Vagnorius emphasized.

The prime minister also dwelt on questions of domestic policy. He spoke of the need to consolidate all the republic's healthy forces, to maintain a constant dialogue between the government and the opposition, and to seek concord.

In conclusion he emphasized the special importance of improving political and economic relations with the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation.

G. Vagnorius and A. Dobravolskas answered numerous questions. A heated debate started up at the end of the meeting, as some of those present proposed their own methods for resolving urgent problems and disagreed with the opinion of the government's leaders.

The second meeting in the premises of Kaunas Workers Union lasted until late in the evening. Union Chairman R. Tevyalis criticized certain Supreme Soviet and government decisions. He also spoke about the problems and worries of Kaunas workers and the affairs of the new trade unions. The speakers—V. Sabunas, L. Dambrauskaite, and V. Sustauskas—spoke about the unstable situation in the republic, the constantly rising prices, the arbitrariness of certain leaders of enterprises, the lack of proper control over the operation of city self-management, and the inadmissible growth in crime. R. Tevyalis submitted a proposal which received the approval of those gathered there: To involve employees of the Territorial Protection Department in instilling order in the city.

Yeltsin Meets Trade Union Officials 10 August

Discusses Transfer of Executive Powers

LD1008221491 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1300 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Report on Russian President Boris Yeltsin's meeting with representatives of the Russian Federation of Independent Trade Unions in Moscow on 10 August, including recorded excerpts of Yeltsin's remarks]

[Excerpt] [Announcer] [passage omitted] Many people predicted that the trade union leadership would try at this meeting to put pressure of Russia's president to change the decree on departyization; but those predictions were not fated not to be fulfilled. Speaking of the decree, Boris Yeltsin said unamiguously:

[Yeltsin] The decree will not only not be repealed, but the decree on departyization, as it has been called, will not even be changed. No one is treading on the unions' toes; the unions must work according to their rules.

[Announcer] [passage indistinct] Speaking at the meeting, Boris Yeltsin dealt in detail with the results of his visit to Tyumen Oblast. He said, in part:

[Yeltsin] This trip has shown again and again how, under the system that has served, as the people have been told, for 74 years, it has unfortunately brought the Tyumen region, among others, to a simply horrifying condition. I remember I was there in 1985 with Gorbachev and I must say that little has changed. As for today, the situation has gotten worse. Today, the (?Shanghais) built by the first oilmen, geologists and gas workers and others who work around them—which they built themselves from boards, from slate or corrugated asbestos—still exist, and they have been living in them since 1968. These temporary huts, which the General Secretary, not then yet the president, said in 1985 had to be removed within two years, well six years have gone by and of course more have been added, and that is how the decision of the politburo of the Central Committee, and the Central Committee is fulfilled.

I think this has been allowed to happen probably by a certain degree of indifference toward it by the trade unions and big mistakes concerning the development of towns and concerning the fact that literally in 18 months the wages of oil and gas men in the far north have fallen level with the wages of the southern areas of Russia and the country.

So what kind of nutcase is going to go and work in Yamal for the same 700 rubles he will get in the south, in Azerbaijan, or in another republic in another southern region?

[Announcer] The Russian leadership sees the way out of this situation with the adoption of immediate measures. In about 10 days' time a new decree from the President of Russia will come out, giving specific form to these measures. On the subject of the forthcoming decree, Boris Yeltsin said, among other things:

[Yeltsin] Taking into account the specificity of this western Siberian area, to adopt a special decree on it and give greater freedom to enterprises in the one sphere of fundamental decisions. [sentence as heard] This is the most important thing. Because centralized capital investments have dried up, or at least have fallen sharply, and the oil and gas men do not have their own money. At the moment they only have debts.

The first thing to be done in this decree:

Point 1: To give 30 percent of the oil to the oilmen, 30 percent of the gas to the gasmen so that it is theirs to dispose of themselves, and to give licensing rights directly to the enterprises and soviets, the okrug committees and the oblast soviet. Not in Moscow, but there on the spot.

To remove the upper limit on wages which was set by the Union Cabinet of Ministers. To remove limitations on the consumer fund. To remove limitations on the supplements they get for being in the north.

To give the right to determine the level of wages to the administration, together with the trade unions alone.

To give permission for barter deals. In the final resort the decree by the president of the country which takes 40 percent of the hard currency from the enterprises—incidentally, for ends unknown: We have not yet seen them—to deem this decree invalid for Tyumen Oblast. This decision will be made. I consider that some 70-80 percent of the hard currency should be left directly with the producer.

[Announcer] In summing up the results of his trip to Tyumen Oblast, Boris Yeltsin also dwelt on problems connected with the signing of the new Union treaty. As is known, this is to take place on 20 August

[Yeltsin] On 20 August the Union treaty is to be signed by the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan, and the authority of Union departments comes to an end. It comes to an end. They have nothing more to do there. We will abandon the services of these ministries immediately after the 20th and this decree will contain the words: In Tyumen Oblast enterprises come under the jurisdiction of Russia, apart those functions which are not being transferred in accordance with the Union treaty. These are defense, border defense, railways—although there, too, there were a lot of questions—give us money for the railways, give us money. I said no. These are being handed over to the Union; let the Union invest and think about it. We are allocating a certain sum for this from our budget to the Union budget.

Furthermore, in this treaty—so far it is a draft treaty; it has not yet been signed—there are also joint functions, but there are not many of them. So that all the 60 Union

ministries and departments will not have anything to do here; they will be kept within the structure envisaged by the Union treaty.

All property is the property of the peoples living in that particular territory, and no one can dispose of them—not Pavlov, Petrov or Sidorov, or Tom, Dick or Harry.

[Announcer] During his conversation with the leaders of the Independent Trades Unions of Russia, Boris Yeltsin spoke of the structures of executive power that are being set up in our republic. In particular, he stressed the following:

[Yeltsin] First, a State Council, with 15 state counsellors in it—basically leaders, half of them with portfolios and half of them without portfolio. That is to say, half could be ministers—for example, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, KGB, and others, and half the state counsellors, for example Sergey Borisovich Stankevich here, for links with public organisations. He doesn't have a ministry, he has some sort of working group, or will have. That kind of thing, a State Council—that's the first thing.

I think there is no need for Trade Unions in the council. It contains only state counsellors. A trade union worker cannot be a state counsellor or rather the chairman of the Central Committee of a trade union, and even less can the chairman of the federation be one.

Second, a Council of Ministers. The same.

Third, a Council of the Federation and Territories. I mean of the republics included in Russia and all the other territories.

And fourth, a Security Council. A Security Council not in the sense that it will protect Russia from external enemies: I mean a Security Council in the broader sense, for emergency situations, for health and epidemic situations in the localities, for environmental protection, and for multi-faceted work like that. And here, of course, there is a link with the bodies of the Union, of the Ministry of Defense, the KGB, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and so on.

So here are four structures, plus an administration and apparatus of the president.

Furthermore, in each region—national, territorial and so on—there will be a representative of the president. Well, we wanted to call it a governor-general [namestnik], and you could call it a governor-general; anyway, it is Russian word, and not something so bad—at least it is not a burgomeister. But if it embarrasses anyone, let it be the president's representative, with his small group of two, three, or four people. What will be his role? He will not get his salary there, in the locality from you, but here. His role will be to pass on quickly the decisions of the president and his decrees and instructions and other sorts of decisions, to all the rayons and towns via the mass media, via meetings with the people, that such a document has been issued. Second: to help in the implementation of the document. And third: inform the president, and accordingly the council for the affairs of the federation and territories, on the objective state of affairs in the localities. He will not interfere in any management functions. He will not have the right to sign decisions. No. His role, as they say, as you said this yourselves, is to be the eyes and ears of the emperor there.

The first 10-15 such representatives will be appointed literally next week.

[Announcer] A number of other questions were raised at the meeting, to do with the activity of the trade unions under conditions of the transition to the market—among others the question of the indexation of wages, [word indistinct] unemployment guarantees, and others.

So the meeting proved that the conflict between the leadership of Russia and the leaders of the Independent Trade Unions did not happen. A decree on trade unions will appear by the end of the year, Boris Yelstin stressed. The sides achieved mutual understanding. It was decided to hold similar meetings regularly.

Government Reorganization Plan Cited

OW1008214291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 10 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Boris Yeltsin has made public his plan of reorganizing executive power and changing over to presidential rule in Russia.

At a meeting with activists of the RSFSR Federation of Independent Trade Unions he said the idea was to establish four supreme government bodies: a State Council, a Council of Ministers, a Council of the Federation that would also be in charge of the affairs of the constituent territories, and a Security Council.

The State Council will include 15 members, among them the Interior Minister, the chief of the republican KGB, and a group of counsellors "without portfolio."

The Security Council will maintain contacts with the Defense Ministry and the KGB of the USSR, and ensure the republic's ecological, sanitary and epidemiological safety.

There will be a network of executive administrative bodies in all regions across the Russian Federation, including in the various republics on RSFSR territory, the heads of which will be directly subordinate to the republic's president. This, according to B. Yeltsin, will make it possible to "improve discipline and enhance the personal responsibility of administrators for the state of affairs in their region." The new leaders will be elected later this year. Until then, they will be appointed by President Yeltsin.

"I am very likely to be accused of dictatorial and other negative inclinations," B. Yeltsin said. "But I hope I'll be

strong enough not to bend: We have to get prompt action on our decisions, not shelve them."

According to Yeltsin, he will appoint a personal envoy to every region to bring home presidential and government decisions to the local administrators and dispatch objective information about the actual state of things there. The first 10-15 envoys will be named in a presidential decree next week, Yeltsin said.

Regional 'Representatives' Discussed

LD1008181291 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Report by correspondent Sergey Rybin, including brief recorded remarks by Russian President Boris Yeltsin at his meeting with Russian Federation of Independent Trade Union representatives in Moscow on 10 August; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Excerpts] [Rybin] Boris Yeltsin met representatives of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia today. [passage omitted] The meeting, which lasted three hours, also discussed the fulfillment of the agreement between the Council of Ministers and the Independent Trade Unions. [passage omitted]

[Yeltsin] Our task in this situation is to afford our people social protection to the maximum extent of our capabilities. Because we have not yet managed to withstand the price rises of 2 April, we must go on to the second part, the social protection of people, those who are in particularly great need today.

[Rybin] The president and the Independent Trade Unions agreed on permanent joint work.

Another item of news: In the next few days, Boris Yeltsin will sign a decree on executive power. Administrations will be set up in the rayons and oblasts. The heads of these administrations will be elected by the people in October-November; for the moment they will be appointed by the president. Furthermore, in the regions the president will appoint his own representatives. They will not interfere in the processes of executive power: Their role will be to be the emperor's eye in the localities.

This announcement by the president did not arouse any great enthusiasm among those present.

Reviews Tyumen Visit

LD1008131791 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1105 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Report by correspondent Sergey Pustovoyt]

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin held a meeting with representatives of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Federation of Independent Trade Unions. On the telephone from the White House is Sergey Pustovoyt.

[Pustovoyt] The meeting started with Boris Yeltsin introducing his advisor on public organizations, Sergey Stankevich, stressing that contacts with the CPSU—the departyized party, as the Russian president called it—will also be within his remit.

Concern was expressed by the trade unions about the infringement of the rights of trade union organizations in local areas as a result of the incorrect interpretation, by some local authorities, of the decree on Departyization.

Boris Yeltsin explained once again that the effect of the decree extends only to those public organizations that are engaged in political activity, and that consequently, trade unions are not affected by the decree. The decree on departyization will not only not be revoked, it will not be altered either, the Russian president added.

Boris Yeltsin discussed in detail the results of his trip through Tyumen Oblast. Seventy four years of Soviet totalitarianism had led this kray to a horrifying state in the words of the Russian President. Oil workers's pay in Tyumen at present does not exceed earnings in southern regions, and inhuman living conditions in slums are leading to an exodus of people from the oblast. As a consequence, oil extraction is also falling.

The Russian leadership views the adoption of immediate measures, including the immediate transfer of 30 percent of the oil to those who extract it, and permission to sell it not only in the domestic but the foreign market and the removal of pay level restrictions, as a way out of the situation.

In the words of Boris Yeltsin, the revocation of the USSR presidential decree on removing 40 percent of the hard currency from enterprises is an essential element in improving the economic and social position of Tyumen Oblast. I warned Gorbachev, the Russian president said, that this decree is an error. He promised to think about it but since then two weeks have passed and so far there has been no answer, and since this is the case we have to act independently. About 80 percent of the hard currency should remain with the producers, only then may one reckon on an improvement, Boris Yeltsin stressed.

All these measures will be provided for in a decree by the Russian president on Tyumen, which, in the words of Yeltsin, will be signed in 10-days' time after studying the proposals of the oil men. According to this decree, about 60 Union departments—all apart from the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Defense—will cease to function in Tyumen Oblast. All property will henceforth be at the disposal of the working people. And, in the words of Yeltsin, neither Pavlov, Petrov, nor Sidorov will be able to dispose of it.

The representatives of the Independent Trade Unions noted that according to their forecasts unemployment in Russia may reach between 10 million and 12 million people by the start of next year. Additionally, taking into account the fact that in the past three months alone, the price increase index stood at 25 percent, one cannot fail

to recognize that extraordinary measures to improve the economic and social situation in Russia cannot be postponed for a single day.

Television Reports Yeltsin Visit to Tyumen Oblast

LD1008022191 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Video report by V. Martynov from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Excerpts] Why was the decree on special status for Tyumen Oblast not signed during Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to the oil and gas region? [video shows Yeltsin descending from helicopter, Yeltsin with groups of workers at oil installations] In the words of the president himself and officials accompanying him, a number of problems that came to light during the visit and questions posed to the president by those he met forced a postponement of the intended signing of the decree.

Indeed, there are many problems. The population of the oblast is shrinking, with people leaving because they are unable to stand the extreme conditions in which they have to work and live. [passage omitted] [video shows Yeltsin touring factory, meeting a crowd outside an official building, Yeltsin and Silayev at a meeting with officials]

The oblast has been promised that from January 1992 it will be able to retain for its own needs 30 percent of the raw materials it extracts. Let us note that the president described a suggestion from the oilworkers that this figure be raised by 20 percent as robbery. [video shows crowd, Yeltsin at an oil well making an informal speech]

The Russian Government is taking upon itself the responsibility for the fate of these people.

[Begin Yeltsin recording] On 20 August we sign the Union treaty. From that moment, everything within the 60 Union ministries comes under Russia's jurisdiction. [end recording]

Continuing Reportage on Departyization Decree

Decree To 'Undergo No Amendments'

LD1108201191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Boris Yeltsin has stated that the decree on discontinuing party cells, far from being rescinded, will undergo no amendments. In 10 days he will sign a decree giving Tyumen Oblast the status of a free economic zone.

Gorbachev 'Inaction' to Decree Hit

PM0908210391 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Aug 91 Second Edition p 2

[V. Gerasimov report: "Left Perplexed"]

[Text] Leningrad—USSR President M.S. Gorbachev's inaction in connection with B.N. Yeltsin's well-known decree harms the party—this is the opinion of B.V. Gidaspov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Leningrad Obkom [oblast party committee]. He said so at a brief news conference yesterday for Soviet and foreign journalists devoted to the results of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Communist Party Central Committee Plenum and to the obkom bureau meeting held the day before.

Rayon party committee secretaries had left the obkom bureau sessions hall the day before in definite confusion and with many unspoken questions. The bureau's resolution points out that the Russian presidential decree is a gross violation of citizens' constitutional rights and political freedoms and constitutes interference in the activities of public associations guaranteed by law. Posing a serious danger to the further development of democratization in the republic, particularly in the absence of a clear-cut procedure and mechanism for realizing it, the decree is directed against all sociopolitical movements and parties, and primarily against the CPSU. Therefore the Leningrad party organization, guided by existing legislation, will adopt a final decision on realizing the decree only after the USSR Constitutional Oversight Committee's conclusion on the document's conformity with the USSR and RSFSR Constitutions and laws.

Addressing party organizations and Communists, the obkom bureau urged them to show restraint and calmness in the very complex situation of the party, not to yield to emotions, and to step up work on the most important questions in the life of the homeland, particularly those concerning the protection of working people's interests under the conditions of a market economy.

"There would be greater benefit not from B.N. Yeltsin's decree but from his appeal to Communists hand in hand with other parties and movements to help Russia's peoples withstand the threat of real hunger and the upcoming cold winter in a situation of an acute need for food and fuel," B.V. Gidaspov remarked in conversation with journalists. "We should not stoke confrontation in society but channel it toward productive work."

Progress of Departyization in Smolensk

LD0908210391 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1300 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Report from Smolensk by correspondent Sergey Novikov]

[Text] The editorial office of SMOLENSKIYE NOVOSTI, the newspaper of the Smolensk City Soviet of People's Deputies, has conducted a poll by telephone among Smolensk residents regarding Boris Yeltsin's decree on departyization. What is your attitude to the decree? This question was put to practically 1 in 10

Smolensk residents with home telephones. Forty-eight percent of Smolensk residents approve of Yeltsin's decree, 15 percent are against it, and 27 percent of the polled Smolenites could not give a definite answer.

It is a curious fact that among those working at enterprises and organizations, a considerably greater number—56 percent of those polled—display a positive attitude to the decree.

One should mention that the Smolensk Oblast Soviet and the Smolensk Oblast Executive Committee were among the first to start implementing the presidential decree although until recently they displayed a negative attitude to the policy of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet and Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin personally. Nevertheless, as early as 2 August, the presidium of the Oblast Soviet and Oblast Executive Committee issued a joint instruction saying that it is not permitted to set up new primary organizations of political parties or to continue with the activity of the existing ones within these structures. The presidium and executive committees of all the remaining city and rayon soviets of the oblast have been recommended to adopt necessary measures for strict observance of the RSFSR presidential decree of departyization.

Work on implementing Yeltsin's decree has started in Smolensk and the oblast now. Smolensk Chekists were among the first to eliminate their party organization. Party gatherings have been held at almost all major enterprises of the town. Yesterday a conference of secretaries of town party organizations was held in Smolensk; a schedule for implementing the presidential decree was presented there.

Polozkov Said Given New Portfolio Before Plenum

LD0908225191 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 9 Aug 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] RIA [RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY] reports that the USSR Cabinet of Ministers had already appointed Ivan Polozkov deputy minister of agriculture before the plenum of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee.

It is curious, in this connection, to note the statement made by Central Committee Secretary Gennadiy Zyuganov: I wish to say honestly and frankly that the decisison to resign was one reached by Polozkov himself after a long soul-searching. It was his will. In the same interview with Radio Liberty, Zyuganov said that the departyization decree runs counter to popular morality, which in Russia, he said, has historically taken the form of a collective way of dealing with each another.

Article Reflects on Aftermath of Plenum

PM0908153791 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Aug 91 p 1

[Vyacheslav Dolganov article: "Party Musical Chairs: In Which Direction?"]

[Text] Ivan Kuzmich Polozkov has left the political arena. To revitalize agriculture across the country. Admittedly, he is not the top man in the ministry, but has any leading ministerial figure ever determined our general policy? Moreover, Ivan Kuzmich does have some experience in agricultural management. Several years ago, when Krasnodar Kray enterprises were transferring to economic accountability and refused to second manpower to the sovkhozes and gigantic canning combines "for nothing," the kray party leadership declared a universal civil defense exercise.

And they went. Machine tools froze. The benefit from the maneuver was negligible.

The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Communist Party Central Committee Plenum gives grounds for highly complex reflections.

First: What kind of personality has replaced Ivan Kuzmich and what can be expected of new First Secretary V.A. Kuptsov, a graduate from the Leningrad Higher Party School, first secretary of Vologda Oblast Party Committee, and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee?

We did not manage to gather information to show that this man has his own line of political conduct and his own program. Alas.... He is known mainly from TASS reports: "The following participated in the conference...." So there are grounds to assume that he will act along the same channel as the intellectual stream which the Russian Communist Party once again produced at its latest plenum. While mouthing calls for reforms, reconstruction, and the consolidation of society, the leaders of Russia's "official" Communists adhere to quite defined political positions and cultivate unambiguous sympathies and antipathies toward specific persons. Nobody would mind if the Russian Communist Party had only violated its own rules and expelled Communist-Democrats V.S. Lipitskiy and A.V. Rutskoy from its ranks. That, as the saying goes, would have been a domestic, internal party matter. What makes it worse is that this leadership, bowing to the CPSU, rejects even the tiniest opportunity to cooperate with the new sociopolitical organization [the Democratic Party of Russian Communists] which, incidentally, is the first to repent before the people for the crimes of its "primeval mother."

Is this consolidation? After all, it would not have hurt the plenum participants to take due account of this fact: Thousands and thousands of ordinary Communists are already joining the Democratic Party of Communists of

Russia [DPCR]. Persecution will only help the DPCR to swell its ranks more quickly.

Voices were heard at the plenum demanding that A.N. Yakovlev, one of the cochairmen of the Movement for Democratic Reforms, be deprived of his party card. But whether because there was enough common sense to realize that the Russian Communist Party has not the least right to do this, or because something simply malfunctioned inside the voting machine, they never got around to dealing with Yakovlev in earnest. I think that this is also a matter of time, as the movement aroused even more negative appraisals at the plenum than "Rutskoy's party."

However, I will be specific in my emphasis: "Polozkov's children" reject any opportunity to cooperate and seek common viewpoints with the very organization which intends—like Poland's "Solidarity" in the past—to unite all healthy forces in the fatherland for the sake of its salvation and renewal.

But it seems that a conflict is also brewing within the CPSU. Clearly, its edge is not set primarily against fundamentalists: The target here is the general secretary, who is also the country's president, with his report which shook the conservatives and with new CPSU Program, which orthodox Communists find unsuitable because of the lack of Bolshevik implacability and class approaches.

This plenum bolstered neither the Russian Communist Party's nor the CPSU's prestige among the people. And now it is up to the people themselves to decide whether or not they find this party suitable.

Some Union Treaty Clauses May Be Unacceptable

LD1008223891 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2004 GMT 10 Aug 91

[From the "Vesti" program]

[Text] A month ago, if you recall, "Vesti" acquainted you very briefly with the latest text of the [union] treaty, comparing it with the original. But in actual fact, the treaty is unknown to the people of Russia and even Russian parliamentarians, who should become acquainted with it, as Yeltsin himself decided, before the signing—but the session of the Supreme Soviet is only in September. A group of democrats appealed to the president, warning him that such a development of events is fraught with a new conflict for the president and Supreme Soviet of Russia.

The enlightenment of all the people of Russia is not of the least consequence, either. The deputies themselves propose that Yeltsin call an emergency session or postpone the signing, breaking his word. The situation is close to hopeless. It is the business of the president to search for a solution; it does not lie within the framework of the traditional Saturday commentary of "Vesti." Just a few more words, spoken today in an interview to our correspondent by Sergey Shakray, adviser to the Russian president on legal issues. His signature will also have to be placed under the text of the treaty on the Union.

[Begin recording] [Shakray] The fact of the matter is that a number of clauses of the Union treaty may be interpreted in such a way as to be unacceptable to the Russian Federation, as it will lead to the destruction of its statehood.

[Correspondent A. Shilov] In the opinion of Sergey Shakray, a number of clauses of the treaty may be interpreted in such a way that, once the treaty is signed, the Constitution of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] will cease to operate for the republics which make up the Russian Federation. Problems also remain in determining citizenship and in questions of property.

[Shakray] A declaration on how Russia and its republics see the Union treaty and its execution should be promulgated along with the signing of the Union treaty. It is a matter of the president of the RSFSR and the leders of the republics making up the RSFSR having to make an unequivocal statement in this declaration on these points, to the effect that the aim of the collapse of Russian is not being pursued, that the aim of destroying the constitutional rules is not being pursued, and that questions of an economic nature will be decided based on mutual interests, in order to exclude such interpretations of the Union treaty. [end recording]

Silayev Answers Viewers' Questions 10 Aug

LD1008135791 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1030 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Viewer phone-in with Ivan Silayev, prime minister of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, RSFSR, moderated by Irina Yuryevna Lapina in Moscow—live]

[Text] [Lapina] Good day. The Plus Eleven video channel continues its live broadcast. Ivan Stepanovich Silayev, the Russian prime minister, will reply to your questions for half an hour on telephone no. 217-45-63. Ivan Stepanovich, two weeks have passed since our last meeting—I mean the other meeting that was also broadcast live. I am pleased to report that you have found it to be essential and important to come regularly to visit us in the studio.

You have expressed your readiness to share your views on what is happening at the moment in response to the direct calls of television viewers. Now we will not make any guesses or make any specific promises, but it looks as if, at least for the time being, we will have you here twice a month. Well, our phone number is coming up on the screen now, 217-45-63, and we will get down to work.

The first question is from Sergey Zhuk from Moscow: You have given an order to set aside about 16 million rubles [R] for the upkeep of a special state service to observe and register changes in prices and tariffs in

Russia. What sort of service is this, and is there any hope that at long last, prices will come under control?

[Silayev] I think that comrade television viewers understand that this is a reaction to all the negative phenomena which today have found a place in our life—that is to say, the unrestrained and arbitrary rise in prices and the changes in prices without any basis—and, with the aim of exerting some influence on the change in prices and defending our citizens who are purchasers from the arbitrary will of those who carry out such actions, we have, I would say, been forced to adopt a decision of this nature.

The fact of the matter is that until recently, we could influence the prices of something in the region of 10-12 percent of products manufactured on Russian territory. Now that we are assuming our sovereign rights—our economic rights and so on—we completely take into our own hands the system of price-formation and, consequently, we also take up the chance to exert a positive influence in the interests of purchasers in this complex situation. In this way, this is the actual goal—and I do not doubt that our television viewers will look upon this favorably—measures to defend purchasers.

[Lapina] And here is one of our first questions, a question about agriculture. What is the situation this year with the harvest? What can we expect this year, this winter? This really is a serious question, and in my view, it worries many people.

[Silayev] Yes, indeed, citizens are worried how we will survive the winter, whether or not we will starve. I would like to say the following thing. Yes, it is true that a number of our Russian regions—some oblasts of Western Siberia and the Volga region—have been affected by the drought. And some oblasts in the northwest—the Novgorod and Pskov Oblast, and partially Leningrad Oblast— have suffered because of a great excess of precipitation. In this situation we adopted a decision, together with Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, which encourages, provides serious incentives for the efforts of rural workers aiming to maximize the gathering in of the harvest we now have and the selling of it. For the first time in many years we allocated 100,000 cars for this purpose, approximately 200,000 refrigerators, washing machines, and so on. Apart from this we decided that we will pay hard currency for half of the products sold to the state over state tax in kind, and moreover, on the level of world prices, and other measures. That is on one hand.

On the other hand, we have already calculated everything. We estimated approximately what the real results of this harvest will be. And we see that we won't manage without additional purchases of grain and other types of products. At the same time we are now in a completely different situation. Before we would ask the center to purchase a certain amount of grain, butter, oil-seed, and meat, now, taking into account the new Union treaty which will be signed on the 20th, we handle all our foreign economic activities ourselves and we will be buying everything directly from suppliers of these products and resources and we will handle them in the interests of Russia's inhabitants.

And finally, we learn certain lessons from the current situation: recurrent droughts ruin all our plans and hopes. But it does not only depend on the elements. It depends on us as well. We are now preparing some proposals for the president. And by the end of this year we will adopt a program which will change the whole agricultural system on the territory of Russia in order to make it possible to increase the volume of production of agricultural products and to influence the results of rural workers' labor on a scientific basis. That is why you should not worry, comrade Russians. Do not doubt, the government won't let you starve. It is undertaking all necessary measures for us to live normally and without worries. Another matter is that I would like to address rural inhabitants and ask them to make maximum use of all the facilities provided by everything including economic incentives so that we can gather in as large a harvest as we can get today.

[Lapina] Here is a question from Aleksandr Vladimirovich Pavlenko: What is your attitude to the planned declaration of sovereignty by the Siberian republic and republics of the Far East?

[Silayev] To be brief, my attitude is negative. It is another thing to make such regions and any regions economically independent to a large extent. We are working in this particular direction. We have envisaged it in our laws for next year, especially in our budget and our other programs. The creation of autarkies and breaking up the Russian economy into small regions are not logical things to do. They will damage our economy.

[Lapina] Ivan Stepanovich, I have chosen two questions which, in my mind, can be combined. Siliznev from Tula: Western experts started their assessment of the Volzhsk Automobile Plant. Are we trying to establish a pattern for the privatization of the largest enterprises? And another question came from Bondarenko from Moscow: A law regulating order and conditions for the restoration of ownership rights of former owners and their legatees on property came into force in Lithuania. Could the same thing, God forbid, happen in Russia? So people are expressing their worries regarding various aspects of the forthcoming privatization.

[Silayev] Good, yes, thank you. Well, first of all regarding the Volzhsk Automobile Plant. We recently met the leadership of this plant. We told them that Russia is very much interested in their collective. We do not think it to be expedient to sell out main funds of this plant without our participation. But at the same time we think that, generally, it is necessary to set up joint-stock companies, working on classical principles, during the process of denationalization. They should have a certain sound part of controlling percentage of stocks belonging

to the Russian state. That is why I think that this process is controllable. And we take part in it.

The other question is very interesting: whether individuals claiming to have had, I suppose, prerevolutionary property will appear? I should tell you that when we visited the United States we had a meeting with representatives of Russian emigrants of the so-called first generation. And a similar question arose there, and it should be said that participants in the meeting themselves said no. Now it is not possible and would not be legal to talk about some rights and claims regarding the ownership after such a colossal amount of time. This was said by the emigrants themselves, and I would have thought it to be quite a convincing assessment. People who would claim their property back do not exist, and there is no legal basis for it.

[Lapina] So, here is a question from Rostov, from Aleksandr Lvovich: On 12 May this year, the RSFSR law on those involved in the Chernobyl accident, and benefits for them was adopted. It stated that the Russian Council of Ministers would allow three months for bringing legal acts into line with this law. These three months will come to an end on 12 August. Will the corresponding instructions being issued by the Council of Ministers reach those who are to implement them?

[Silayev] Undoubtedly they will reach them. This work has almost been completed. I must say that we have tried to take into account the large number of observations and ideas of citizens actually living in these territories. We have taken into account the experience that Belorussia and the Ukraine have already built up, and on the whole, if I can put it this way, this well-analyzed collective experience will be implemented along with our own ideas concerning the establishment of the necessary conditions to live there, rights of resettlement, benefits and other measures. That is to say, we have completed this work and in a short time it will reach these oblasts.

[Lapina] I would now like to put forward a question from Vitaliy Vasilyevich. President Yeltsin—you visited Tyumen with him—and as a result of this, an increase in the price of oil has been proposed. Will the price of oil be increased, and will there be a further reaction to this in all other industries? And will there be a general price increase? I think that people are jumping to hasty conclusions, but this incidentally is probably a result of the fact that in parts of the media yesterday there was talk of the price of oil going up from R60 per tonne to R280 per tonne. There really is this sort of talk going around.

[Silayev] Regarding hastiness, I think, esteemed Vitaliy Vasilich, that you will have noticed that Boris Nikolayevich stated several times while he was in Tyumen, in Tyumen Oblast, that the situation is such that time is needed to issue a presidential decree which will be exhaustively complete, objective, and be the sort of decree which will, let's say, work for the good. Therefore, there cannot of course be any talk of hastiness. At one and the same time, in the localities, the oil men have naturally raised these issues—the fact that life is growing more expensive, that their labor is undervalued, and that is not only happening because someone does not want something, but also because the cost of their labor is expressed in terms of the cost of the oil extracted which is, unfortunately, out of step today with reality, and consequently, this price of R60-R70 is extremely meager and is completely out of keeping with the quality of the oil. On a world level, let's say, it is out of alignment with other prices.

Nevertheless, I cannot say that we can yet name any other price, and I regret that there has been this report that the price has been set at R280. No figures have been named. Work is still being done on this.

I'd like to say here that in our economic relations with our Union partners under the new Union treaty—the nine republics, and not just them, but also those that aren't going to sign the Union treaty—we indeed intend to hold talks about switching to reciprocal sales of the most important goods and products at world price levels. That includes oil, timber, gas, and the sort of strategic materials that today represent Russia's national assets. I want to say in this regard that we are to fly to Moldova on Monday by agreement, where we intend to propose to the Moldovan Government that we conduct economic relations with regard to the most important strategic goods on world price levels, on the level of world equivalents. This will enable Russians to trade with everyone—signatories and nonsignatories of the Union treaty alike—on the level of world practice. So we are now carefully preparing to conclude accords with the other eight republics, and also those which aren't going to sign the Union treaty, on an objective economic basis, a market basis, as I would put it.

We are not talking about increasing the price to R280, although I'd like to point out that the purchase price of Russian oil today is R70, or rather R60—70, while Azerbaijani oil costs R120. That is already abnormal, so everything has to be brought into line here.

[Lapina] And here is the following question. Now they are talking a lot about Western aid. So many Moscow mansions were sold out to joint ventures and foreign companies. Won't we sell out the whole country? What is your opinion about this? Alekseyev, Moscow.

Ivan Stepanovich, I read this message while you were answering previous questions and felt like expanding on the subject. I have recollected the following comparison—I saw it in a newspaper, I do not remember which one. The country is like a car with the broken engine and an empty fuel tank. The West, well, they mean its financial help, can fill it up with fuel but the car won't move anyway. The engine has to be changed, and for this new materials are needed. Not just materials but plans as well. So can we use not just the gasoline and the plans but also the materials?

[Silayev] Yes, your addition to this question was very sound. But I will start with the question itself. I would like to ask our citizens not to be too worried about the fact that all of a sudden this or that building or mansion, as they are called here, are sold out or rented out to some Western companies. First of all, it is a novelty for us. The whole world—that is if you want to cooperate, and we intend to cooperate and integrate into the world economy—naturally, cannot manage without proper missions. That is why this is a positive process. Another matter is that having provided some space, we cannot provide telephone lines or good service. We have to go through this. And we supervise it, of course. There is a colossal amount of old and rare buildings in Moscow. In this respect Western businessmen help us repair them, put them in order and restore their former appearance. It is not bad. And of course, we exert a certain influence to regulate it. We need it.

And as for your analogy of gasoline and fuel tank and the engine. It would be sufficient to have the broken engine or not to have gasoline but to have a working engine and the car won't move. That's why I would like to say that, of course, we have to cooperate with the Western economy. But it does not mean that we have to become some sort of a raw materials appendage or a semicolonial state. We have many various achievements in engineering and the scientific field. We are falling behind because we do not implement them. Our old structure of economy led us to this. I think that our most important guidelines are connected with the use and implementation of new technologies in our major production processes. This is a grave and necessary task. And we largely count on normal partnership.

In the sphere of materials: Our economy, which was militarized in the past, resulted in a situation where many of the latest and good materials—which are in many cases not inferior to those in the West—have been created and are manufactured in the defense sphere of industry. Nevertheless, we also have here a lagging behind in not of the materials themselves, not the concrete brands of the materials, but in their qualities and especially the technology for their manufacture. That is why a concrete program of cooperation has been created, to use the latest technologies in which we lag behind with the help of Western partners. By doing this we can modernize the enterprises, develop them, create better conditions for work, and so on, and be able in many cases and with the minimum support of Western firms to independently readjust our economy and get things going.

[Lapina] It is difficult for us not to agree to this, as George Bush, whose visit to Moscow took place recently sharply swept aside all the accusations that the Soviet industry will be sold out completely as a result of market reforms. Many times you have said that you are a devoted supporter of market relations. In connection with this, here is a harsh question: Comrade Silayev, do you really think that what is taking place is the beginning of market relations? The thing is that one monopoly is being substituted for another whereas the people are continued to be robbed. When will the government establish some kind of elementary order?

[Silayev] Well, as for the establishment of an elementary order—I would like to begin from this end, esteemed Comrade Solovyov,—the introduction of the presidential structure in the Russian Federation is leading to precisely this. This is the main task of precisely such a structure. As for market relations I can confirm that only new economic relations, precisely market relations, will in reality bring success to all the Soviet people, and in the first place to Russia's people. How fast this is going to happen is another question. Everything cannot be done immediately. We have to restore a whole layer of entrepreneurs and businessmen. This is a necessary condition. They should be trained to be able to work under the conditions of market relations, to be able to interrelate with the world economy, to be able to choose partners. Anything can happen in life. Sometimes one comes across unreliable partners, who have not been absolutely put to the test. The processes are not simple. They should be undergone but, nevertheless, those who wish to see these processes taking place will by all means see that these elements are already working. They are appearing.

They are already appearing. Exchanges are appearing, and the more there are the better it will be. Commercial banks are appearing. Appropriate non-state, commercial organizations, such as the organization of Russian entrepreneurs, and others, are appearing. All sorts of assistance funds to promote the movement to a market economy are appearing. So I would ask our esteemed viewer, Comrade Solovyev, to take note of this. Naturally, the end result is very important in terms of how our citizens live, what food they eat, and what clothes they wear. But all that will take time, too. As far as food is concerned, let me reiterate that we are devoting a very great deal of time to these matters, and when we were in Tyumen Boris Nikolayevich met oil workers, workers from industrial enterprises. I met agricultural workers, including small farmers. So we are dealing with the whole spectrum of our operations. I not only believe, but I am convinced that if citizens give us their backing, and help to put into effect the laws that have already been adopted and are in force, we will reduce the period of instability and chaos that we have today, and function with greater sureness in market relations. In market conditions. That will mean that our citizens, our families, our children and we ourselves will work more effectively and enjoy appropriate social security.

[Lapina] When the U.S. President was talking about his own government's obligations, he mentioned the protection not just of ownership rights, but also the need to establish some sort of limitations to permissible entrepreneurial activity. Employing a metaphorical comparison, he said that government should ensure the rules of the game are honest and that the playing field is even. Can I ask you this—do you agree with this point of view, and, if so, how does the Russian Government intend to make sure the playing field is even?

[Silayev] Absolutely so. There can simply be no argument about this, as world experience shows that the role of the state and government is to regulate market relations and bring influence to bear in particular areas and on the adverse factors that the market entails. They are much needed. The degree of state and government influence is different in different countries, but it exists everywhere. The same applies to us. Here, of course, the law and strict liability for contraventions of it are the basis of how we operate. We, too, already grasp this—let us say, theoretically—and we are already beginning to take action, but our laws are not yet working from the point of view of the implementation of the laws and compliance by everyone, from the highest bodies of power to individual citizens, particularly producers and traders in goods, especially consumer goods.

This is why a law on the general procuracy of the Russian Federation has been adopted—that is to say, on the executive authority, legislative authority, and judicial authority—it is the basis, the three main pillars for normal market economic relations. This mechanism will have to come into effect and then we will take the relevant measures.

[Lapina] Here is a specific question. In Moscow and other towns, convoys carrying foodstuffs have piled up, and they are not being unloaded. When will order be restored? I would ask you to give a specific reply on this.

[Silayev] I can understand your indignation on this matter, Aleksandr Ivanovich, but if, esteemed Aleksandr Ivanovich, you consider that the government should disperse convoys and unload these containers day and night, then the government would not be acting in accordance with its functions. We see the global, fundamental resolution of this problem—this is privatization in the trade sphere. I cannot see—and Western experience shows this to be the case—a shopkeeper of some specific shop allowing a train or container with meat or goods for him to stand there for months on end. He would probably be ruined, and there would be no need for any sort of interference, either from the government, or even from the mayor of the city of Moscow, to ensure that everything should be done as it was organized. Thus the main and most efficient means—once again based on the principles of market relations—is the active privatization in the sphere of trade, shops and means of transport which will undoubtedly bring some order to this matter as well.

But presently, it is the government of the city of Moscow, the prime minister, Comrade Luzhkov, who are quite actively involved with this, and obviously we will also set our Ministry of Internal Affairs and KGB bodies to this task so that they can help in an operational sense.

[Lapina] Ivan Stepanovich, and here is another question which is rather malicious: Nikolayev from Nizhniy-Novgorod. Comrade Silayev, Ivan Stepanovich, when will this disgraceful situation come to an end? There is nothing for us, yet we continue helping many countries. Isn't it time that we helped ourselves? We ourselves are poor... and so on and so forth. I would like—not to soften this question, but to ask an additional question of you on this subject—mystification and veracity. It is the case that in actual fact we do help the Third World, developing countries, at the moment. Honestly, it really is a muddle. There are those who say that much official information shows that on the whole very little is now given, but this is hard to believe. We do help a lot.

[Silayev] Very well. In the first place, this is not a malicious question. I would not have put it like that. And comrade Nikolayev poses the question, so something is not clear to him. This is his opinion.

Yes indeed, there was a very lengthy period of time when no one asked the people whether we should help or not, and aid was given, moreover, on a massive scale and as a result of this, today, according to the information which we have, 100 billion in foreign currency rubles is owed to our state. This is an enormous figure.

In the first place, according to our program, we intend to put a stop to this sort of charitable aid. We intend to move over to economically profitable mutual relations and any country, regardless of what sort it is, be it large or small, today has economic possibilities and in applying for aid can compensate for this aid with something. We will act in this way. We will come to agreements regarding these 100 billion. I think that in the near future we can come to an agreement so that this debt to us on the part of other states can be divided between the republics. We will occupy ourselves—and there are specific mechanisms for this—in seeing that at least a part of this debt—about 50 percent of it—is returned to us. If we try for 100 percent of this debt, then we will probably be able to claim back 65-70 percent of it—that is to say, something in the region of 60-70 billion should be paid directly to the Russian Federation by the relevant countries. We will work with them so that they can settle their debts with us.

[Lapina] Ivan Stepanovich, we have a little over two minutes, and perhaps now, we will do the following. Today many questions have been asked of you, and now I am not asking you to ask yourself a question, but could you tell us what very important matter has not been mentioned in today's program? And perhaps—why not—you could formulate the question which you expected today, but which you have not heard?

[Silayev] Well, I might have expected questions about my reaction, the reaction of the government, to the forthcoming signing of the Union treaty. I am an active supporter of it. One could have expected questions about when the formation of the government is going to be completed. Today there is effectively no government—there are only a few members of the government, well, perhaps 50 percent. Having set myself this question, I just want to reply that we will finish forming it in August. We are enshrining very interesting principles—above all, professionalism, and naturally responsibility, and

greater flexibility and appropriateness to the processes that are under way. We will finish in August, and then we will tell our citizens about the government, what main tasks we see ahead of us, and how it is going to be operating in the context of presidential rule.

[Lapina] Ivan Stepanovich, our air time has unfortunately run out. Another program is due to go out at exactly 1400. It behooves me to talk to the Russian prime minister, who has just been calling for discipline, about the discipline of air time. It just remains for us to say goodbye until our next meeting. Goodbye.

[Silayev] Goodbye.

Silayev Denies Reports on Rising Oil Prices

OW1008151791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's Premier Ivan Silayev has denied the press reports that the purchasing prices of oil will reach 280 rubles a ton shortly. At the same time, he confirmed that oil prices would go up, and said that various republics had opened consultations on shifting to world prices in trade, specifically where raw materials were concerned. The first mention of pending oil price rises was made by RSFSR President Boris Yeltsin during his visit to the Tyumen region earlier this week.

I. Silayev was replying to viewers' questions in a live program of Russian TV on Saturday and said it was too early to name specific figures with regard to new prices, since Soviet commodities exchanges offered oil at 500-800 rubles a ton with the average wholesale oil prices set by the state at 60-70 rubles a ton.

The prime minister said Russia intended to independently seek access to international markets already this year, to make what he called "inevitable" purchases of grain and other food products. Asked how large one could expect the national grain yield to be this year, Mr. Silayev said the situation was difficult because vast farmlands in Western Siberia and the Volga region had been hit by drought this summer, and a number of North-Western regions of the RSFSR—by excessive rainfall.

The RSFSR Government is ready to purchase 50% of the grain supplied by domestic producers on top of the state order for hard currency at world prices, and famine is out of the question, Silayev said.

Commenting on progress in privatizing the country's largest car-assembly plant, Togliatti-based VAZ, Mr. Silayev said he did not find it expedient to sell out the plant's fixed assets without government participation. He said if the plant were transferred into the hands of shareholders, the bulk of shares would continue to be controlled by the Government of Russia. "It's a manageable process, and we're involved in it," the premier said.

He added that inter-republican talks on the division of foreign debt payments to the USSR would be over in the near future and that Russia, which he said was entitled to 65-70 percent of the total, would proceed to deal with debtors independently. According to Silayev, the Soviet Union may hope to return at least one half of the 100 billion dollars which he said foreign countries owed it.

Blokhin Elected New Tambov Oblast Party Secretary

LD1008162591 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1200 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] An organizational matter was considered today at a plenum of the Tambov Oblast Committee of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Communist Party. The plenum satisfied a request by Podolskiy that he be released from duties as first secretary of the oblast committee, due to the state of his health.

The previous day a session of the oblast soviet of people's deputies released him from the post of chairman of the soviet, which he also held.

Blokhin, who previously worked as second secretary of the Communist Party Oblast Committee, has been elected as first secretary of Tambov Oblast Committee of the RSFSR Communist Party.

Ukraine

Vitold Fokin Receives Hungary's Jeszenszky

LD0908165491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1025 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By UKRINFORM-TASS Ivan Sayko]

[Text] Kiev, 9 Aug (UKRINFORM-TASS)—Vitold Fokin, the prime minister of the Ukraine, received today Geza Jeszenszky, foreign minister of the Republic of Hungary, who is staying in the Ukraine on an official visit.

In the course of a frank conversation, it was noted that the Ukraine, just as the Republic of Hungary, has been recently going through the difficulties of a transitional period. The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Cabinet of Ministers spares no effort to stabilize the economy and follow the path to the transition to market relations and the integration of the Republic's economy into the world economy.

The Ukraine intends to take active part in international cooperation, including that within the framework of the European process. The Republic's bilateral relations, which are getting stronger, especially with its nearest neighbors, are called upon to play here an important role.

In this respect Vitold Fokin dwelled also on specific proposals for the expansion of the turnover of trade between the Ukraine and Hungary, including that on a barter basis, and other questions concerning the development of mutually beneficial cooperation.

The minister of foreign affairs of Hungary had a conversation with Ivan Plyushch, first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet. The guest was familiarized with the main aspects of the reform of the political system which is under way in the Republic, as well as with the introduction of presidential power with the elections scheduled for December, with the activities of the Ukrainian parliament, and with work on the new Ukrainian SSR Constitution, the concept of which has been published for nationwide discussion.

During their conversation at the Supreme Soviet and the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic, both sides stressed that the Ukraine and Hungary formed good-neighborly relations a long time ago, and that traditional friendship links the two peoples. At the current stage of mutual relations, both states intend to deepen bilateral links, and to implement more fully the provisions of the declaration on the fundamentals of relations between the Ukraine and Hungary and of other bilateral documents signed during the visit to the Ukraine by Arpad Goncz, the president of Hungary, and during the visit to Hungary by Leonid Kravchuk, chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet.

Geza Jeszenszky also had a conversation with Anatoliy Zlenko, the Ukrainian SSR minister of foreign affairs. They signed a protocol on consultations between the Ukrainian and the Hungarian foreign ministries, and published a joint communique on the results of the visit.

A joint news conference was held by the ministers of foreign affairs.

This afternoon Geza Jeszenszky and the officials accompanying him have flown to Lvov.

Press Conference Detailed

LD1108115591 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The visit of Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky to Ukraine is continuing. Our correspondent Oleksandr Zedniv reports:

[Zedniv] Yesterday morning a conversation took place in the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic [UkSSR] Cabinet of Ministers. The high guest was received by Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Pavlovich Fokin. The two sides exchanged views regarding the transitional period in our countries. Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Maksimovich Zlenko and Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky signed a protocol on consultations between the UkSSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs and that of the Hungarian Republic. A press conference given by the two foreign ministers for Ukrainian and foreign journalists took place in the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs press center. Let us listen to a part of this meeting:

[Begin recording] [Jeszenszky in Hungarian fading to Ukrainian translation] Giving a real and specific meaning to all agreements which were signed in May of this year during the visit [to Hungary] by Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Chairman Kravchuk was the main subject of our negotiations. The transitional period (?requires) a certain amount of time but we should not waste time. We must take corresponding specific steps simultaneously with the process of the transitional period. In order to improve the living conditions of our people we agreed to create in the future committees and commissions for coordinating our activity in various spheres of cooperation.

During my visit I shall also visit Lvov and Uzhgorod. The opening of a consular station of the Hungarian Republic's Consulate General in Kiev will take place in Uzhgorod. I hope that relations between our countries can serve as an example for our other neighbor countries.

[Zlenko] It is difficult even to enumerate the range of issues which were of considerable interest in the course of negotiations. I think that implementation of the trade and economic agreement, which was also signed in Budapest, will serve as a further stimulus for the development of economic relations. Today is the day when industries of the highest priority in the economic sphere have been determined. Indicative lists of goods, on the

basis of which it is desirable to conduct trade, have been presented to the Hungarian side. We proceed from the fact that the opening in the near future of the Ukrainian mission or consulate general in Hungary will serve as the stimulus to finding specific solutions to certain problems.

Among other issues which were discussed in particular during our negotiations in the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs were, shall we say, such issues as regional cooperation—particularly in the Tissa and Carpathians basin, simplifying the conditions for citizens' border crossings, the Ukraine's possible participation in the Expo-96 world exhibition, and the participation of believers in a meeting with Pope Paul John II which will take place in Hungary in the near future.

The talk was also about issues connected with Hungary's support for our proposals and plans regarding European cooperation. [end recording]

[Zedniv] Hungarian Foreign Minister Jeszenszky, together with his wife and the accompanying delegation left for Lvov yesterday.

'Multifaceted Contacts' Sought

LD0908223691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1127 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By Aleksey Petrunya, UKRINFORM-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Kiev, 9 Aug (TASS)—Geza Jeszenszky, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Hungary, today expressed his satisfaction on his visit to the capital of the Ukraine. He spoke at a joint news conference in Kiev with Anatoliy Zlenko, minister of foreign affairs of the Ukraine.

"I think, Geza Jeszenszky said, that the relations being created between the Ukraine and Hungary of late can be an example of good-neighborliness and of fruitful contacts."

"Hungary is striving to develop multifaceted contacts with the Ukraine, due to our being historical neighbors, the existence of a common border, the respective national and ethnic minorities living in both countries, as well as due to the wide possibilities of the establishment of a diversified mutual and beneficial cooperation, Geza Jeszenszky noted. The visits of the Hungarian president to the Ukraine and of the head of the Ukrainian Parliament to Hungary contribute to this. The declaration of the basics of relations between the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Republic of Hungary, signed during the visit of the chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet to the Republic of Hungary, has become a document of special importance."

The Hungarian minister revealed that "The provision of a real basis to the concluded arrangements and the discussion of issues on political and economic cooperation was the main topic of the talks in Kiev. We are to set up three working groups, which will engage in the preparation of an intergovernmental treaty, a treaty on economic cooperation, and a treaty on cultural links."

"There is no doubt that this visit will contribute to the further development of Ukrainian-Hungarian contacts, in which a special place is devoted to our foreign affairs departments, Anatoliy Zlenko underlined. We are convinced that our approaches and positions at present, and on the prospects for our relations, fully coincide. The main thing is that there exists a mutual interest for cooperation, and the desire to develop it on a new basis in the spirit of mutual respect. One can certainly say that many issues to which previously there were no solutions, are now beginning to be resolved. Priority directions were established during the conversations. They are, first, regional cooperation, in particular, in the basin of the Carpathian Tissa; then the simplification of the procedures of crossing the common border. We also have the support of Hungary in relation to the participation of the Ukraine in the European process."

Jeszenszky Notes 'Genuine Friendship'

LD1108162391 Budapest MTI in English 1441 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Uzhgorod, August 11 (MTI)—Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky opened the Hungarian consular office in Uzhgorod, in the Ukraine, on Saturday. The foreign minister is currently on an official visit to the Ukraine.

Jeszenszky and his party travelled by car from Lvov to sub-Carpathia. At the Uzhokh mountain pass, the foreign minister placed a wreath at the memorial erected by the Russian military leadership in memory of the Hungarian, Austrian and Russian soldiers who lost their lives in the first world war.

In Uzhgorod, the Hungarian delegation held talks with a delegation led by Mikhail Voloshchuk, president of the sub-Carpathian District Council. The Ukrainian side raised numerous proposals aimed at promoting cooperation, and voiced several critical remarks. In his reply, Jeszenszky said: 'Our relations have changed considerably in the past two or three years, a good indication of which is the openness and sincerity that characterized our current talks. This is the main aim of our visit, for a suitable relation to come about with the changing republics of the changing Soviet Union. However, the main emphasis in Kiev, Lvov and in sub-Carpathia was on the development of economic relations. Agreement was reached in Moscow a few weeks ago, and now in Kiev as well, that the payments methods now in force should be changed. The less advanced barter trade methods and clearing deals should be utilized until market economy is created in this region.'

The Ukrainian side raised the issue of the direct exchange of rubles, which causes serious problems not only in trade, but in tourist traffic as well. Jeszenszky said the Hungarian state would be glad to exchange

roubles, if it could then spend it. Unfortunately, no such possibility has been found as yet.

Jeszenszky noted with satisfaction that the relation between Hungary and the Ukraine in other areas of life is progressing towards genuine friendship, instead of a declared friendship. The plan to open four new border crossing stations along the Soviet-Hungarian border, if possible with the introduction of joint customs examinations, enjoys full support from the Hungarian side. The feasibility of realizing these proposals was reconfirmed by Ivan Aboimov, the Soviet ambassador to Hungary, who is present at the talks on behalf of the Soviet central Government.

Following the talks, the Hungarian foreign minister ceremoniously opened the Hungarian consular office. In his speech, Jeszenszky stressed the Hungarian Government will do everything possible so that the Soviet-Hungarian border also become a genuine European border.

On Sunday, the Hungarian foreign minister is visiting Mukachevo and Beregovo, and will then return to Hungary.

Vitold Fokin Expects Most-Favored-Nation Status

LD0908224291 Moscow TASS in English 2149 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Kiev August 10 UKRINFORM-TASS—Some projects in the package proposed to U.S. President George Bush during his recent visit to Kiev will be implemented soon, Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin said, commenting on prospects for cooperation between the United States and this, the second-largest Soviet republic, during a meeting with Soviet and foreign journalists in Kiev on Friday.

First of all, he said, we count on most favoured nation treatment in trade with different U.S. organizations, associations and firms. The move was already discussed by Vitold Fokin with U.S. leaders during his last year's visit to Washington and was welcomed by them.

"There is another problem which President Bush can and hopefully will want to help us solve," the Ukrainian prime minister said. "I mean a clear-cut definition of this republic's share of the credits and investments earmarked for the Soviet Union as a whole".

As regards the forthcoming signing of the new Union treaty, Fokin noted that the treaty's latest variant clearly shows the centre's desire to stick to dated formulas. It is impossible to agree to the preservation of centralized management of a considerable number of industrial enterprises amounting to 45 per cent of the Ukrainian Republic's industrial potential. In addition the centre claims the right to run the rail, sea and air transport.

The prime minister expressed disagreement with the proposed preservation of a single financial, credit and insurance policy.

Comments on Economy, Harvest

LD1008203191 Kiev Radio Kiev International Service in Ukrainian 2200 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Ukraine's Prime Minister Vitold Fokin held a news conference in Kiev today. Our correspondent Serhiy Sobutskyy reports.

[Sobutskyy] This was the first press conference given by the Ukrainian prime minister. The necessity for holding this and also future press conferences, was explained by Vitold Fokin as being a need for inhabitants of the republic to be better informed about the actions of the government. Vitold Fokin started the news conference with an analysis of the situation in the republic.

[Begin Fokin recording] The economy of our Ukraine, as well as that of the whole of the country, is slowly becoming accustomed to market relations. [passage indistinct] As you know, the government adopted the program of extraordinary measures. However, these measures cannot fully exhaust the program of actions which are necessary to ensure a full transition to a market economy. At present our main measures are being implemented very slowly. A frontal recession in production is taking place, although as a small achievement, so to speak, one can say that the speed of such recession is falling all the time. [passage omitted] [end recording]

[Sobutskyy] Vitold Fokin then dwelt on the important issue for the republic of grain crops procurement. The procurement of grain crops [word indistinct] is delayed for many reasons. Vitold Fokin shared his thoughts as regards settling the situation with grain crops procurement. In his view it is worth making collective farmers and state farm workers interest in selling grain crops to the state. For this purpose the republican government has elaborated a complex of measures to stimulate this process. agricultural workers are offered a mutually beneficial exchange: Grain crops in exchange for goods in great demand, and construction materials, which the countryside desperately needs. Vitold Fokin said that if this does not help, he has a number of measures which would not make the republican government more popular, but he would be forced to resort to them in order to prevent hunger in the Ukraine next winter. Vitold Fokin did not say what these measures are.

The prime minister also dwelt on the issue of Ukraine's own national currency. Special coupons, made of (?valuable) paper are to appear in the republic in approximately two month's time. They are made for repeated use, and that will be the basis for the future Ukrainian national monetary unit. In 18 months time, according to calculations by the republican cabinet of Ministers, Ukraine will have real national currency. For this purpose it is planned to build a special mint on the territory of the republic. When concluding the press conference, Vitold Fokin noted:

[Begin Fokin recording] The program on which depends whether or not our republic comes out of the [word indistinct] state, is intended for full state self-governing as envisaged by the State Sovereignty Declaration of the Ukraine, and by the Law on Economic Independence of the Ukraine. [end recording]

Explains Export Ban

LD1008214391 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 10 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The decision to ban the export of agricultural produce from Ukraine comes into effect today. This forced measure will be valid for the period when the state order is being fulfilled. Incidentally, this is just one aspect of the government programme which is meant to make the process of handing the harvest over to the state more attractive for peasants. This program is also to determine on measures of protecting the harvest from dealers from other republics. These and other issues were highlighted in a news conference held by Vitold Fokin, the republican Prime Minister.

Soviet and foreign journalists were interested in many topical and urgent problems in the life of the Ukraine. The question put forward by the "Vremya" correspondent related to the response evoked by the well-known decision of the Ukrainian government to restrict the export of agricultural produce. What kind of move is this? It seems that at such a difficult time the Ukraine is unwilling to share a crust of bread with its neighbours and brothers.

[Begin Fokin recording] What is happening at present is not only an excuse to criticize but also a rather belated measure, I think. We are not talking here about searching every bag, of course. Nobody should go over the top and no matter should be carried to the point of absurdity. We are talking here about taking out large quantities of consumer goods which are in a very short supply here, in the Ukraine. At present there are approximately 252-260 posts on the territory of the republic. The majority of them are mobile but some of them are fixed. There are 3-4 people on duty at each post, including an officer, whose presence is a must. Their duties include checking trucks, trailers, and refrigerated transport, and the conditions on which this or that produce is taken out.

I repeat once again, since I would like you to tell your readers, listeners and television viewers about my concern . We do not disrupt the economic ties which have been established. On the contrary, at present we devote our particular attention to fulfilling our commitments as a republic. We, of course, create no obstacles when the supply is carried out in accordance with the treaty which was adopted and the commitments which were taken on. There have been not only hundreds but thousands of cases when people, mainly from southern and Baltic republics, were stopped. They take everything out by tons: Butter, sugar— or rather, try to take out, to be more precise. Those who would like to call us separatists should know that the Ukraine carries out all its contractual supplies at the level of at least 85 percent, namely 85-95 percent. Our supplies—I mean those which we receive in return—excluding those from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, are at the level of 45-53 per cent. So, our conscience is clear. [end recording]

Treaty Said Not Signed Before New Constitution

OW1008145991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Ivan Plushch, first deputy head of the Ukrainian parliament, has confirmed that his republic will not even discuss the possibility of signing the new Union Treaty until it passes its new Constitution, a draft of which is to be scrutinized this autumn. He was meeting the visiting Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Ieszenszky in Kiev and said the Ukraine thought it essential that experts confirm the treaty's consistency with the Declaration of Ukrainian Sovereignty.

The parties discussed Hungary's possible involvement in privatizing Ukrainian industry and agriculture. They agreed to open a Hungarian consulate in the West Ukrainian city of Uzhgorod.

Georgia

'Disappointment' With Bush Visit Expressed

LD0908173391 Moscow TASS in English 1703 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi August 9 TASS—The government of the Soviet Republic of Georgia has issued a special statement to express its disappointment with the results of U.S. President George Bush's visit to the Soviet Union.

The statement released today expresses regret that George Bush supported in his speeches in Moscow and Kiev the ideas of perestroyka and the Soviet Union's territorial integrity.

The statement is extremely critical of the U.S. President's evaluation of the political situation in republics seeking secession. George Bush said about these republics that "dangerous manifestations of nationalism in them might lead to the establishment of despotic regimes. [no end quotation marks as received]

The government of Georgia, the statement says, regards these words of President Bush as the United States' refusal to support independence of a republic that seeks separation from the Soviet Union.

In closing, the Georgian Government says it would like to see the United States support not communism, tyranny and showcase reforms but genuine democracy, freedom and independence of nations. Only in this case the United States will remain true to its historic mission.

Government 'Sharply Critical' of Bush

PM1208102991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report from IZVESTIYA, TASS, INTERFAX, IAN, REUTER, AFP roundup: "Georgia's Government Offended by G. Bush"]

[Text] Georgia's Government has issued a statement sharply criticial of some statements by the U.S. president during his visit to Moscow and Kiev.

The statement says that doubts have recently reemerged about the United States' role as bastion of freedom and democracy in the world. The statement notes that Bush's definition of the struggle waged by the Soviet Union's enslaved peoples for freedom and self-determination as a manifestation of nationalism contradicts the Helsinki Treaty's principles.

It should be added that political circles in the republic have appraised Bush's statement of his support for the Baltics and Armenia, as well as the U.S. president's words that the United States will not support any republics where communist dictatorships are replaced by nationalist authoritarian regimes, as a negative attitude toward the processes occurring in Georgia, IZVESTIYA's own correspondent B. Urigashvili reports.

Report on Reorganization of Republic's KGB

PM0908115991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Aug 91 First Edition p 1

["Direct Line" report by Correspondent Major S. Kruzhilin: "'Ours' and 'Theirs' Again?"]

[Text] Tbilisi, 6 Aug—Georgian President Z. Gamsakhurdia has had a meeting with the leadership of the Georgian National Security Department—this is now the name of the former republic KGB. The local press confined itself to just a brief report in this regard. It follows from it that questions of the Georgian National Security Department's final separation from all-union jurisdiction were examined at the meeting. In addition, the department has to reorient itself to combating economic and social ills, exposing and eradicating the drugs business, and so on.

Also, as follows from the report, "it must play a major role in exposing and rendering harmless the hostile actions of imperial forces against Georgia."

To judge from the president's numerous interviews, there are plenty of "Kremlin agents" in Georgia. They include political opponents, unwelcome journalists, and opposition parties.

In short, the reoriented department is faced with new and, most importantly, "creative" work. However, how recognizable in historical retrospect are its individual "priorities," which could perfectly well melt into methods of sad memory.

More on National Security Department

AU0608090991 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0700 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Unattributed report: "A Meeting of the Leaders of the Security Department"]

[Text] Zviad Gamsakhurdia, president of the Republic of Georgia, met with the leaders of the Georgian National Security Department.

The final separation of the Georgian National Security Department from Union jurisdiction and other questions connected with this [word indistinct] and also the priority lines of the department's future activity were discussed at the meeting. It was pointed out that, today, the National Security Department is no longer a political police. However, it has to fulfill an important role in exposing and (?curtailing) the hostile actions directed against Georgia by the imperialist forces. Particular attention was directed to the department's role in the

fight against crime in the republic, first and foremost in putting a stop to the narcotics business.

Questions were brought before the department whose resolution will contribute to the establishment of law and order in our country [words indistinct].

'Hostile' Center To Be Countered

LD0908082391 Moscow TASS in English 1156 GMT 09 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi August 9 TASS—The Georgian KGB has been renamed into a national security department. Meeting its chiefs, President Zviad Gamsakhurdia stressed the need to finally separate the service from the federal KGB.

During the meeting, he described priorities for the department's work, emphasising its role to "identify and counter hostile activities by imperial forces against Georgia". By "imperial forces", Gamsakhurdia meant the Central Government.

Republic Seeks Diplomatic Relations With Slovenia

AU1208140291 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1300 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Declaration issued by the Republic of Georgia Supreme Council in Tbilisi on 10 August]

[Text] The Republic of Georgia Supreme Council welcomes the struggle of the Slovenian people for self-determination and congratulates it on having created an independent state.

The Supreme Council expresses the hope that all problems connected with the creation of the Slovene independent state will be resolved without the use of force and by means of peaceful negotiations.

The Republic of Georgia Supreme Council and the Republic of Georgia Government are ready to begin negotiations immediately with the Slovene Government on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two states, on the establishment of business, political, economic, and cultural ties between our two countries, and promote the extension of friendly relations between our peoples the basis for which has already been laid by the twin towns of Ljubljana and Tbilisi.

The Republic of Georgia Supreme Council

Tbilisi, 10 August 1991.

Republic Demands Withdrawal of Paratrooper Units

OW0808141491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The decision on withdrawal of the paratrooper units from Sukhumi and its outskirts was adopted in the meeting of the city residents and the inhabitants of the regions of the Autonomous Republic with the Georgian Supreme Council's deputies and members of the Georgian Government which was held in the city stadium. The appropriate demand is sent to the Soviet Government.

Roundtable-Free Georgia Organizes Sukhumi Rally

AU0908190891 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Russian 1345 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Another attempt to call upon certain anti-democratic forces to reach an accord on the eve of the elections to the Supreme Council of Abkhazia and local organs of power was made by the people of the autonomous republic.

In this regard, a mass rally took place at the Sukhumi republican stadium. It proceeded under the slogan of Achievements of Democracy Belong to Everybody and was convened by a number of public organizations, primarily the Roundtable-Free Georgia bloc. The meeting was opened by (?Ngalumishvili), member of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia. He explained that it was necessary to hold the meeting because certain forces had artificially exacerbated the sociopolitical and social situation in Abkhazia in order to destabilize the situation and undermine the planned elections.

Anxiety in connection with the anti-Georgian policy pursued by certain circles in the region was expressed at the meeting. In the opinion of the speakers, it was noted in the infringement upon the democratic rights of the Georgian people with regard to the cadre policy. The participants in the meeting warmly welcomed the speeches by Public Health Minister Dzodzuashvili and Internal Affairs Minister Khabuliani, who expressed the readiness of the republic government and of President Zviad Gamsakhurdia personally to guarantee the rights of the Georgian people and of all the peoples of Georgia within the framework of democratic law.

Koridze, chairman of the permanent commission of the Supreme Council, also spoke. He called upon those present to firmly pursue the democratic policy, work toward the well-being of the people through conscientious and persistent labor, and develop all spheres of social life. The participants in the meeting adopted a corresponding resolution.

North Ossetian Rejects Georgian 'Interference'

LD1108163491 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1500 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] The mass media of North Ossetia have published the text of the reply by Galazov, chairman of the

Supreme Soviet of the North Ossetia Soviet Socialist Republic, to the appeal by Gamsakhurdia, president of Georgia.

The Georgian president demanded that the Supreme Soviet of North Ossetia restore the historical name of Ossetia to replace North Ossetia, and also that it cease to recognize the South Ossetian Autonomous Oblast.

The reply by the chairman of Supreme Soviet of North Ossetia says, in particular: In calling for the restoration of neighborly relations, you are attempting to dictate to a sovereign republic your conditions, and are putting forward ultimatums. In particular, the demand to change the name of your republic gives rise to indignation. That is outright interference in the business of a sovereign state.

Meskhetian Turks Continuing Protests in Moscow

OW0608135491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The action of the 700 Turks-Meskhetians demanding the return of their people to the historic motherland in Meskhetia (Georgia) had been conducted yesterday all day long in Moscow opposite the reception-room of the Soviet Supreme Council.

From 10 to 20 people taking part in the meeting visited the reception-rooms of the Soviet President, the Soviet Supreme Council, the Defence Ministry and the Soviet Women's Committee where they handed in their demands.

Ossetians Set To Join Moscow Protest

LD0708081191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0700 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Text] More than 70 Ossetian refugees have come to Moscow to ask the government to ensure their return to permanent domicile, the Russian Information Agency reports. In the next few days they intend to join a group of Meskhetian Turks who are campaigning for their return to their historic areas of habitation on the territory of Georgia. A meeting which a delegation of deputies from South Ossetia is to have with USSR Vice President Yanayev has been postponed to next week. One of their representatives declared they intended to achieve a meeting not later than 8 August.

Gamsakhurdia Suspends Abkhazian Electoral Decree

OW0608133391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia issued a decree suspending the decree of the Presidium of the Abkhazian Supreme Council from July 20 "On forming the Central Electoral Commission for electing deputies to the Abkhazian Supreme Council."

According to Gamsakhurdia that decree contradicted the constitution of the republic and the very law on election of deputies of the Abkhazian SSR. Two-thirds of the members of the Central Electoral Commission belong to the block "Soyuz," which wanted Abkhazia to sign the Union Treaty. The Georgian leadership is strongly against that point.

Political Activity Said 'Shifting' to Abkhazia

PM0908123191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 91 Union Edition p 2

[Besik Urigashvili report: "Georgia: War of Laws"]

[Text] Tbilisi—The Georgian president has issued decrees suspending certain Abkhaz ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic] acts of legislation.

In the first case it is a question of the Abkhaz ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree on setting up a Central Electoral Commission for elections to the autonomous republic's Supreme Soviet. President Gamsakhurdia's decree states that the document violates the Georgian Constitution, as well as the Abkhaz ASSR law on elections, and discriminates against Georgian voters.

The second decree suspends the Abkhaz ASSR law under which the Abkhaz prosecutor is appointed in conjunction with the Soviet and Georgian General Prosecutors and the Abkhaz ASSR Supreme Soviet. Under the Georgian Constitution, autonomous republic prosecutors are appointed by the Georgian General Prosecutor upon recommendation from the autonomous republics' Supreme Soviets.

The appearance of these decrees shows that the center of political activity in the republic is shifting to Abkhazia, where elections to the autonomous republic's Supreme Soviet will be held at the end of September. A great deal will depend on the results of these elections. Above all, whether the relationship between the republic leadership and the Abkhaz authorities will be constructive or not. For the time being the strategic and political aims of the republic leadership and the autonomous republic's authorities largely conflict.

Law on Press and 'Other Media' Adopted

LD0308155891 Moscow TASS in English 2032 GMT 2 Aug 91

[Text] Tbilisi August 2 TASS—A session of the Georgian Parliament today adopted in the second reading a law on the press and other media, SAKINFORM news agency reports.

The law prohibits the censorship of newspapers, magazines, TV and radio programmes, video programmes and newsreels, periodicals and other printed matter. The

use of the Abkhazian language on an equal basis with the Georgian language is guaranteed in the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic.

National minorities residing on the Georgian territory are guaranteed the right to circulate information in their native language and in other languages.

The law stipulates terms for the registration of media, the rights and obligations of media workers, the responsibility for deliberate circulation of false information, for insulting the honour and dignity of citizens or organisations.

The Georgian Parliament adopted in the first reading laws on political associations and on the privatisation of state enterprises.

The deputies discussed and adopted a package of laws—on the national bank, the monetary and crediting regulation, on banks and banking in the republic, as well as the law on the procedure of making changes in Georgia's criminal code and decrees on the procedure of putting them into operation.

Report on Creation of 'New Political Force'

AU0908151091 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Russian 1345 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] In view of the extremely difficult political and economic situation that has taken shape in the republic, considering the policy pursued by Roundtable and by the Communists—who constitute a majority in the Parliament—to be extremely inefficient, and believing it their duty not to conceal the truth from the people, the Democratic Center factional parliamentary group, the Union of Free Democrats, the National Liberal Democratic Party, the Republican Party, the Popular Front, and the Christian Democratic Union, agreed to cooperate for the sake of overcoming the aforementioned difficulties.

On 8 August, in the House of Cinema, they signed a joint declaration. Thus, a new political force was created in Georgia, and its birthday was celebrated with a bottle of champagne. Before the meeting, an unidentified group of women tried to cause a riot in order to sabotage this undertaking. Fortunately, no one was injured.

Armenia

Details of Upcoming Secession Referendum Reported

PM0908213391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Aug 91 Union Edition p 2

["Direct Line" report by Sergey Bablumyan: "On Eve of Referendum"]

[Text] Yerevan—Babken Ararktsyan, first deputy chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Central Commission for holding the referendum in the republic, has reported some details concerning the preparations for the referendum to be held 21 September on Armenia's secession from the USSR.

Those inhabitants of Armenia who will be outside the republic on referendum day will be able to vote beforehand and hand over a sealed envelope to the Central Commission.

Babken Ararktsyan pointed out that in conjunction with Armenia's permanent mission in Moscow, invitations have been sent out to all the country's republics, suggesting that they send official delegations to observe the course of the referendum. A similar invitation has been sent to the United Nations. Requests have been distributed to the embassies of 51 countries in Moscow for them to send their representatives to the referendum. In addition, approximately 120 personal invitations have been sent to various politicians, public figures, and well-known representatives of the country's intelligentsia.

The Central Commission is continuing to receive numerous requests from the world's major news agencies and newspapers for their correspondents to be accredited. Babken Ararktsyan said that journalists will have an opportunity to come to Armenia, and all conditions for their work will be created.

First Candidate for Republic Presidency Nominated

LD1108162491 Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 11 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan August 11 TASS—Although the election campaign for Armenian presidency has not yet been officially launched, the first candidate to the top post of state authority in the Armenian Republic has already been nominated.

A meeting of the National Self-Determination Council, which ended here today, nominated Armenian People's Deputy (Paruir Airikyan). For his active role in the human rights movement he was stripped of Soviet citizenship and evicted from the Soviet Union in the summer of 1988. While in emigration, he was elected Armenian people's deputy, reinstated in Soviet citizenship and returned to Armenia last November.

The socio-political organization he heads favours the republic's full and immediate independence from Moscow, its unconditional withdrawal from the Soviet Union and the establishment of the national guard.

The presidential elections in Armenia are scheduled for October 16.

Supreme Soviet Meets 8 Aug, Releases Official

NC1008115191 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] The Armenian Supreme Soviet Presidium met on 8 August under Supreme Soviet Chairman Levon Ter-Petrosyan.

Gagik Arutyunyan, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, began the meeting by presenting the proposal of the Commission on Place Renaming on renaming of a number of Armenian rayons and settlements. The Presidium decided to comply with the requests of the rayon and city soviets to rename certain rayons in Yerevan and a number of settlements in Armenian rayons.

Bagrat Asatryan, acting chairman of the Supreme Soviet's Commission on Health and Social Affairs, addressed the meeting on the results of the work carried out by the commission to study the sanitary-epidemiological situation in the republic.

Arshak Sadoyan and Petros Katsakhyan, members of the Local Self- Administration Commission, and Gagik Arutyunyan discussed the situation in Martuninskiy rayon. The meeting also heard reports from the government's plenipotentiary representative in the rayon, the former procurator of the rayon, the representative of the republic's procurator, and the plenipotentiary representative of the Central Commission on Land Privatization in Martuninskiy.

Considering that the local soviets and rayon law enforcement organs have not been productive in their efforts to resolve the situation there, the Supreme Soviet Presidium decided to relieve Khurshutyan of his post as the plenipotentiary representative of the government in Martuninskiy. The Presidium also expressed its lack of confidence in the rayon soviet's Presidium. It also decided to appoint Ara Saakyan, secretary of the Supreme Soviet, and Vigen Khachatryan, secretary of the Credentials and Ethic Commission, as the representatives of the Armenian Supreme Soviet in Martuninskiy rayon. These representatives were instructed to organize new elections for the Presidium and chairman of the rayon soviet within a week.

Committee Issues Decree on Arms Registration

LD0708191391 Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Text] Yerevan August 7 (ARMENPRESS-TASS)—The Armenian operations headquarters today issued a decree instructing the Defence Committee at the Armenian Council of Ministers to complete in all the republic's districts by August 15 the registration of arms and persons ready to participate in defending the Armenian population if needed.

By the same decree Armenia's Interior Ministry is obliged to work out and to implement within a fortnight from September 1 measures to confiscate unregistered arms and to bring to book the persons who have not complied with these demands.

Republic Self-Determination Group Plans Congress

OW0808004491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1930 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A congress of the radical opposition Union for Self-Determination of Armenia is to take place on August 10-11 in Yerevan. The congress will choose a candidate to run for presidency in election scheduled for October 16. Paruir Airikyan, the leader of the Union for National Self-Determination and the famous human rights defender, is likely to become that candidate.

More on Self-Determination Congress

OW0808135091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A congress of the radical Union of National Self-Determination in opposition will be held in Yerevan on August 10-11. The congress will nominate a candidate from the union to the presidential elections scheduled on October 16. Perhaps that will be the leader of the union, the well-known human rights defender Pruir Airikian.

Azeris Open Fire on RSFSR People's Deputies

NC0908111991 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Text] Yerevan, 8 Aug (ARMENPRES)—Tension still reigns in the Armenian villages of Shaumyanovskiy. On 6 August, Azerbaijanis welcomed RSFSR People's Deputies Gamchatov, Shamayev, Yershov, and other foreign corespondents, who were investigating the bombarding zone near Verishen, by opening fire on them.

Prospects for Resumption of Interrepublic Trade

PM0908152091 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Aug 91 Union Edition p 2

["Direct Line" report by Sergey Bablumyan from Yerevan: "Trade Is Better Than War"]

[Text] The preconditions exist for restoring trade relations between the neighboring republics on the Nakhichevan sector of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border.

So said Ashot Manucharyan, acting Armenian minister of internal affairs. He explained that this question was broached in a discussion with the Nakhichevan Ministry of Internal Affairs leadership, and could develop positively given goodwill and in the context of the normalization of the situation along the entire length of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border.

Judging by the acting minister's statement, the situation in the border region is showing a trend toward stabilization, and this could be significantly promoted by the final resolution of the hostage problem. The Azerbaijani side recently returned three more hostages, and expressed readiness to do the same with another six.

Azerbaijan

Ammunition Dump Explodes Near Tbilisi; 10 Hurt

LD1008191191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1800 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] At 1340 Moscow time [1040 GMT] today there was a series of explosions at a Transcaucasian Military District ammunition and artillery armaments dump located 80 kms southeast of Tbilisi. This was reported from the Georgian capital by a TASS correspondent.

Some undetonated shells were scattered over territory surrounding the dump. For this reason the population of the closest villages have been evacuated to places of safety. The reason for the incident was an ignition at one of the dumps, which caused the detonation of ammunition and the spread of fire to other storage facilities. Ten persons received injuries as a result of the explosions.

A Military District Headquarters spokesman categorically denied rumors that there were chemical munitions at the storage facilities.

Further on Military Arsenal Explosion

OW1208111791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1030 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An arms stock pile exploded during a fire, which started at 1pm on August 10 at the military base near the village of Ulaynovk in Azerbaijan, not far from the Georgian boarder. Witnesses say that the explosions lasted several hours. According to some sources it was the central arsenal for the Causcasian forces which blew up.

According to initial information 10 servicemen were injured, 2 of them are in hospital. In the barracks some 40 houses were burnt and damaged, and some more 220 houses were damaged in the village of Sadakhly in the Astafin region.

Our correspondent reports that at present no statement has been made by the local military. Similarly the Ministry of Defence told "IF" [INTERFAX], that they are unable to deny or confirm any information.

Yerevan Reports Assassination of NKAO Official

NC1108075891 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] On 10 August at approximately 1300, Valeriy Grigoryan, administrative head of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] party oblast committee, was killed by shots fired from a passing car.

Grigoryan was a member of the delegation which participated in the negotiations in Baku with Mutalibov and Polyanichko. A few days before his death, Polyanichko asked Grigoryan several times to participate in organizing the 8 September Azerbaijani presidential elections in the NKAO.

In view of this criminal act and the new wave of oppression, the oblast committee and oblast executive committee members, war and labor veterans, and representatives of the NKAO people have sent cables to Soviet Vice President Yanayev, Soviet Supreme Soviet Chairman Lukyanov, and Soviet Procurator General Trubin demanding that a criminal inquiry of NKAO Central Committee Second Secretary Polyanichko be initiated and to immediately send a [word indistinct] delegation to Stepanakert.

Azeri KGB On NKAO Figure's Assassination

LD1208124391 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Asildar Guseinov]

[Text] Baku August 12 TASS—The murder of Communist Party official Valeriy Grigoryan in Stepanakert, Nagorno-Karabakh, on August 10 was politically motivated, believe officers of Azerbaijan's KGB State Security Committee.

The republic KGB told TASS today that the assassination might have been prompted by signs of rapprochement between authorities and representatives of the Armenian community in the disputed region, which does not suit Armenian nationalist leaders.

Grigoryan had been an active advocate of the political solution of the Karabakh problem. He was on the region's delegation to the recent meeting with Azerbaijani President Ayaz Mutalibov in Baku.

The hunt for his assassins continues.

Russian Deputies Issue Statement on Baku Talks

NC0308153391 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian 1715 GMT 2 Aug 91

["Text" of statement issued by Russian People's Deputies Panamayov, Sheynish, and Shabad on 1 August; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] At the suggestion of Azerbaijan Republic President Ayaz Mutalibov, Russian Republic President Boris

Yeltsin and Vice President Rutskoy, and the Russian Supreme Soviet's Human Rights Commission, we visited the Republic of Azerbaijan to search for ways to achieve a peaceful solution of the interethnic conflict and to protect human rights.

USSR Defense Minister Yazov provided us with assistance during our visit. Lieutenant General Kolosnikov, chief of the staff of the Army troops, and Major General [name indistinct], chief of administration of the troops of the USSR Internal Affairs Ministry, accompanied us on our visit to Baku and participated in the meetings we held with Azerbaijani President Mutalibov and Chairman of the Republican Organizational Committee Polyanichko on 31 July and 1 August.

Regrettably, Baku did not endorse the mediation proposal that had prompted our visit. Our request to visit Nagorno-Karabakh and the surrounding areas so that we could learn about the situation and meet with Azerbaijani and Armenian residents and with the servicemen of the Soviet Army and USSR Internal Affairs Ministry was also rejected.

We are encouraged by the information Azerbaijan's leaders provided on the course of the negotiations begun with the Initiative Group from the Armenian people of Nagorno-Karabakh. Nevertheless, we wonder whether these negotiations can be successful when they do not include all forces that can influence the situation and are willing to solve the conflict through peaceful means.

We believe that the frank exchange of views with the Azerbaijani leadership was helpful and hope it will pave the way for further contacts. Particularly important for us is President Mutalibov's announcement on lifting the passport control regime in Nagorno-Karabakh and the surrounding areas. In our opinion, these controls, particularly at such a sensitive time, not only cause human losses and the deportation of innocent people, but are also a blatant violation of human rights and an obstacle to the peaceful solution of the interethnic conflict. Another factor of concern is that the passport control regime, with all its attendant cruel consequences, could resume.

Our inquiry as regards the date for a moratorium in this connection unfortunately went unanswered. The termination of forced deportation can become a guarantee for a peaceful settlement only when those who have already been deported are allowed to return to their homes. In future negotiations, it is only just that a solution to the issue of the return of all refugees is reached.

We gratefully accepted Polyanichko's invitation for us to pay another visit to the Azerbaijani Republic, and subsequently to Nagorno-Karabakh and the surrounding areas, at the beginning of September.

We wish to emphasize that we are ready to do all we can to achieve a peaceful resolution of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict.

[Signed] Russian Republic People's Deputies Panamayov, Sheynish, Shabad

[Dated] 1 August 1991

President Mutalibov Outlines Election Stance

OW0908181891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Azerbajian's president, Ayaz Mutalibov, proposes to take a set of measures to protect the interests and security of the republic if he is re-elected president at the direct elections on September 8. He commented on his programme in an interview he gave to the director of AZERINFORM, the official news agency of Azerbaijan.

Mutalibov believes that the programme can also provide for an adequate solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh problem, which, in his view, can only be achieved on the basis of the Azerbajian Constitution. "We will cut short every attempt to interfere with the internal affairs of our republic or infringe territorial integrity," he emphasised.

In domestic policy, Mutalibov is going to work for the development of democracy and the protection of the rights and basic freedoms of every citizen of the republic. Democracy, he said, should be based on firm adherence to law.

In order to solve its social and economic problems, he said, the republic should build up its own monetary resources, something national sovereignty is, in his opinion, impossible without.

Republic President Calls for National Bank

OW0608140491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] "We can not manage without Western aid, without its investments but we should be clever doing that for not to become [passage as received] a regular 'banana republic'," said the Azerbaijan President Ayaz Mutalibov. He spoke in the election meeting with the workers of the automobile plant, which is being built in Guindzha. That plant nominated him to the post of the Azerbaijan President, who will be elected on September 8.

A. Mutalibov stressed that the republican sovereignty would be out of the question if there were no automobile plant in the republican industry. According to the president it is necessary to unite efforts with great foreign firms to put the plant into operation as soon as possible.

"And we need to have our own national bank to make a Western aid appreciable and to prevent currency investments from dissolving in the state treasury once more," said A. Mutalibov.

Last Azerbaijanis 'Deported' From Nyuvedi

LD0908174191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1624 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Baku, 9 Aug (TASS)—The last Azerbaijanis were deported today from the village of Nyuvedi in Megrinskiy Rayon, Armenia, AZERINFORM agency correspondent Asildar Guseynov reports from Baku.

Referring to Azerbaijan's KGB, the correspondent writes that the situation, which had returned to normal to a certain extent after the introduction into the village of Army subunits, has worsened again. Armenia's leadership had issued an ultimatum for the military to be withdrawn from the village. On the night of 7-8 August they abandoned it. At once, representatives of the command of the special regiment of Armenia's Internal Affairs Ministry demanded that the inhabitants of Nyuvedi leave Armenia without delay, after stating that they were unable to guarantee their security. On the morning of 8 August some 30 percent of Nyuvedi's inhabitants drove out of the village into the territory of Azerbaijan in their own motor vehicles. The others arrived there by rail.

Authorities Offer Building to Turkish Consulate

OW0808015791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The authorities of the Azerbaijani capital have offered a building to the Turkish consulate in Baku. According to the press service of the Azerbaijani Parliament, this move followed an application from Consul General Altyn Karamanogly to the president of the republic Ayaz Mutalibov.

Bulgarians Suspected of Selling Counterfeit Money

OW0808021391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to sources in the Azerbaijani Interior Ministry, on Monday militiamen in Gyandzha detained four Bulgarian citizens suspected of selling counterfeit 50 dollar banknotes. The Bulgarians are in the USSR on a private invitation. The procurator's office has started an investigation.

Kazakhstan

President Urges No 'New Delays' for Union Pact

LD0908170291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1600 GMT 9 Aug 91

[By KAZTAG-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Alma-Ata, 9 Aug (KAZTAG-TASS)—In the interests of the people of Kazakhstan it is extremely important to sign the Union treaty with the deadline set in Novo-Ogarevo, ruling out any new delays. This was stated at a news conference today by President of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic Nursultan Nazarbayev.

He stressed that as a result of the lengthy and multistage work on the project, all its participants have succeeded, at last, in coming to a long-awaited consensus. The republic's inhabitants are perfectly justifiably pinning their hopes on the renewal of the federation: without the economic ties that have been built inside the country over the decades, without a unified economic area, there is no one who can get out of the prolonged crisis and enter the free market on his own. In it lies the only salvation, the president said.

Speaking about the political and socioeconomic situation in the republic, Nursultan Nazarbayev noted that the slump in production here is not as critical as it is in some other regions of the country, thanks to the comparatively stable civic peace and interethnic harmony. In July even, an increase in production compared with the same period of last year was achieved. Now there is an opportunity to not permit a lowering of the gross production of output and of the national income for the results of the entire year.

With regard to agriculture, despite the crop failure, no considerable deterioration in the food supply of the people of Kazakhstan will be allowed to occur. The direct accords about deliveries of individual kinds of agricultural produce from other republics, and also from abroad, which have already been reached will help us to hold out, Kazakhstan's president noted.

Confirms Republic To Sign Treaty

OW1008001391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Kazakh president, Nursultan Nazarbayev, confirmed that the republic will sign the Union treaty on August 20.

During a speech at a press-conference in Alma-Ata, he pointed out that "The Union treaty is in the interests of all the republics in that it provides a solution to the present economic crisis. Plus it is in our foreign partners' interests for us to sign the treaty, as at the moment they do not know who they are working with." N. Nazarbayev said he was satisfied that in the treaty Kazakhstan's position, as regards property rights between the Centre and the republic, was strengthened.

The Kazakh president announced that apart from Kazakhstan Russia and Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Belorussia had also expressed a desire to take part in the first round of signing the treaty.

Signing will take place in three stages: the first stage on August 20, the second on September 1 and the third on September 20. This situation is partly explained by the fact that the Ukraine has yet to express its opinion on the Union treaty and on Sepember 20 there will be a referendum on Armenian independence.

Concerning his suggestion for a meeting of the leaders of all the present Union members in Alma-Ata, the president pointed out that "he had no political aims but just wanted to solve how to survive the coming winter with a collapsing economy and collapsing economic relations and how to stop the bloodshed in the USSR."

According to Nazarbayev, a date for the meeting has not yet been set, however, this is being decided and many republics have expressed the desire to take part.

More on Nazarbayev's News Conference

PM0908204991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Aug 91 First Edition p 1

["Direct Line" report by correspondent Colonel A. Ladin: "Five Republics Will Be First To Sign Treaty"]

[Text] Alma-Ata, 9 Aug—N. Nazarbayev, president of the Kazakh SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic], has reported at a news conference that not only Kazakhstan, the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, and Uzbekistan, as announced earlier, will participate in the 20 August ceremony of the signing of the Treaty on the Union of Sovereign States but also Belorussia and Tajikistan, voicing satisfaction with this.

The president of the Kazakh SSR said that after the signing of the Union treaty urgent measures must be taken to stabilize the economy, and joint, resolute actions by the republics and the Union leadership are needed here. He again advocated holding a meeting of the leaders of the 15 sovereign republics in Alma-Ata for the purpose of coordinating actions to surmount the economic crisis.

Further on Nazarbayev's Comments

LD1008172991 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1230 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev, has given a news conference in Alma-Ata. Here is a report by Viktor Klimov.

The republic's president made a statement about the coming process of signing the Union treaty, the trip to

China by a Kazakhstan delegation in July and the food outlook in the republic for the coming winter.

The main reason for the stage-by-stage character of the signing of the Union treaty, in Nazarbayev's view, is the processes of destabilization in Armenia and the Ukraine. These two republics can take until the beginning of October to determine their positions.

Speaking of the visit to China, Nazarbayev stressed the radical nature of the economic measures on which the Chinese authorities embarked 10 years ago. The privatization of all state property—to the extent of 44 percent on average—had been an important factor in the unprecedented economic upsurge. This is something to ponder for those who fear selling off their fatherland and capitalizing our system, the Kazakhstan president said.

As for the economic situation in the republic, and the country as a whole, Nazarbayev assessed it as catastrophic. It is his personal conviction that it is necessary to set up a new state body—an interrepublican committee on the economy. This structure should take harsh and immediate measures to improve finances, prevent hyperinflation, and balance budgets. When asked what then was to be done with the Union Cabinet of Ministers, the head of the republic did not answer.

On the food issue, President Nazarbayev stated that despite the arid spring and summer, the reduction in numbers of livestock and the acreage sown to crops, and the lack of a good harvest in the republic, Kazakhstan's inhabitants will, on the whole, manage to solve the food problem, partially by their own efforts and partially by barter deals with other republics and countries, for instance, with China and Cuba.

More on Five Republics Signing Treaty

LD1008230191 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2200 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The president of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, has said that the signing of the Treaty of the Union of Sovereign States, expected to take place in Moscow's Kremlin on the 20th, will be attended by five Union republics, not three, as was originally announced. Russia, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan will be joined by Belorussia and Tajikistan.

Nazarbayev believes that the signing of the treaty must be followed by urgent measures to stabilize the economy. He said that in the current complicated situation the republican and Union leaders must act together and with resolution.

Kazakhstan's president called for a meeting of the leaders of 15 sovereign republics in Alma-Ata to coordinate steps to end the economic crisis.

Daily on Nazarbayev's Press Briefing

PM1208100991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

["Direct Line" report by Seytkazy Matayev: "Five Republics Will Sign the Union Treaty 20 August"]

[Text] Alma-Ata—Plenipotentiary delegations from Belorussia and Tajikistan will take part in the solemn ceremony, in addition to Russia, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan which announced their intention earlier.

This was announced by Kazakhstan's President N. Nazarbayev at a press conference in Alma-Ata. Azerbaijan, Turkmenia, Kyrgyzstan, and the Ukraine will become parties to the treaty at the subsequent stages in September-October.

Kazakhstan's leader noted that the new Union treaty has arrived at a sensible balance of all republics' interests. This approach is capable of ensuring normal living and working conditions for people in a renewed federation. It was especially emphasized that a truly voluntary association of sovereign states will be created, in which all the peoples will autonomously run their affairs and freely develop their own culture, language, and traditions.

At the same time, attention was drawn to the fact that the ceremony of signing the treaty does not mean that the end result has been achieved; it means only that a lot of work lies ahead. This applies primarily to the elaboration of a new Constitution, elections to the country's new Supreme Soviet, and solution of other questions concerning the federal structure. Direct participation by the republics' plenipotentiary representatives in this important process must be a mandatory condition, just as it was during the preparation of the Treaty on the Union of Soviet Sovereign States.

Answering IZVESTIYA's question about the Alma-Ata meeting of the 15 republics' leaders, which is under preparation, N. Nazarbayev announced that consent has been received from the majority of republics.

Kazakh, Kyrgyz Presidents Discuss Cooperation

OW1008224791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan has said that Georgia, Armenia, Latvia, Estonia, Moldova and the Central Asian republics have already consented to discuss the prospects of economic cooperation at a conference involving no representatives of the Union Government. He was speaking in Bishkek on Saturday to a news conference crowning his talks with the Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev.

Asked by IF's [INTERFAX] reporter to comment on his proposal that the inter-republican conference be held in Kazakhstan's capital Alma-Ata, N. Nazarbayev said that

"there is a pressing need for all republican leaders to sit at a negotiating table, since economic ties are disintegrating, the peoples are gravely stricken by poverty, and real civil wars are going on."

The Kazakh president said a date for the conference might be announced next week.

President Akayev, for his part, said that "all the republics are looking forward to meeting in Alma-Ata without the Center's participation." He described Nazarbayev's initiative as "history-making", since "the ex-Soviet republics have not had a chance during the past two years to discuss things quietly."

As he was talking to public activists after the news conference, N. Nazarbayev called for the early signing of the Union treaty. "If we are ever to build a real market and see through a sweeping reform, we have to preserve a common economic space and make sure the Soviet Union remains a great power," he said.

On Saturday, Presidents Nazarbayev and Akayev exchanged the documents ratifying the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

Further on Friendship Agreement

LD1008152991 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] President of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic Nazarbayev and the president of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan today ratified in Bishkek the friendship and cooperation treaty which was signed earlier in the year between the two sovereign neighboring republics.

The economic and cultural ties between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan are entering a new stage of their development, which is based on the expansion of direct contacts in the sphere of material production, trade, and exchange of scientific and technical information.

The treaty confirms the sincere striving of the two fraternal peoples toward strengthening friendship and goodneighborliness.

President Nazarbayev Appraises Trip to China

OW1008011691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1830 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev said that his recent official visit to China was one of the first visits that had not been cleared by Moscow and was conducted by the sovereign republic on its own. Touching on its results, he said that the visit had been "very enlightening in terms of the study of the experience of economic reforms". Nazarbayev said that he had dealt with a number of problems in relations to Kazakh-Chinese cooperation.

Problem No. 1 is the joint running of a railroad connecting the USSR and China via Kazakh territory. According to Nazarbayev, the railroad opens up the possibility of building a transcontinental railroad. Talks have been held with Central Asian republics, and consultations are on with Iran concerning the possibility of a link with Turkey via Iran. This will connect the Pacific coast with the Mediterranean.

Nazarbayev also suggested the extension of the Alma-Ata-Urumqi air route to Beijing and to Seoul.

More student exchanges were discussed.

Nazarbayev also dismissed accusations that his government had embarked on the capitalist development road. "In China, a country that proclaims at every street corner its commitment to the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, 44 percent of the property has been nationalised, 70 percent of the agricultural sector and 3/4ths of the services are in private hands," said Nazarbayev. "And living standards have been improved too."

The Kazakh delegation was particularly impressed by a visit to the free economic zone of Senjen in the Guandung Province. "It was there that we saw how foreign investments should be placed. We have to cover this road," said the Kazakh president.

He said that September 28 is the date of his planned visit to Turkey at the invitation of Turkey's President Ozal. Among other things, he intends to discuss the creation of an Ankara-Alma-Ata-Tashkent air route.

Treaty Documents Exchange With Russia 16-17 Aug

LD0908201191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1300 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Pavel Voshchanov, press-secretary of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic president, has told the Russian News Agency that the presidents of Russia and Kazakhstan will exchange ratification documents in Alma-Ata on 16-17 August. Thus, the treaty on cooperation between the republics will come into force.

Union Blamed for Problems With Chevron Pact

OW1008011791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1830 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev touched at his press conference in Alma-Ata on Friday on the results of the recent Soviet-US summit in Moscow in which he had participated. According to Nazarbayev, President Bush told him in Moscow that more than 30 major US companies had expressed willingness to do business in Kazakhstan. According to the Kazakh president, he saw eye to eye with President Bush on the development of the Tengiz oil and gas field by the US corporation Chevron.

Nazarbayev claimed that the Chevron agreement had been drawn up by the USSR Ministry for the Oil and Gas Industry without Kazakhstan participating. According to the president, when Kazakhstan learned of the course of the talks, the president criticized severely such negotiating techniques and he was included among the negotiators. Now the project will be surveyed by an independent foreign panel.

According to Nazarbayev, the major differences on the project are four. One: the Soviet Union has already spent $850 million and 1.5 billion rubles on the development of the Tengiz field. If Chevron wishes to pose as partner in the JV [joint venture], it must reimburse the Soviets for half the amount. Two: what part of the profits Chevron will repatriate and what part will be left behind in Kazakhstan? According to Nazarbayev, apart from taxes payable to the Union, all oil profits will be divided between Chevron and Kazakhstan. There are other problems as well, including the ecology and the creation of a social infrastructure.

The president also said that a presidential decree is being prepared that will place all oilfields in Kazakhstan under republican authority. Following this step, all negotiations will only be conducted with Kazakhstan's Government, and the rest of the negotiators will deal with the republican government.

Pavlov Acts on 'Emergency' Ecological Situation

LD1008165691 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Pavlov, the USSR prime minister, has signed an ordinance in connection with the emergency ecological situation in eastern Kazakhstan. The Ust-Kamenogorsk lead and zinc combine is permitted to sell output produced in excess of its deliveries quota for freely convertible currency. The funds from this are to be directed at improving the environment, acquiring technological equipment, and also for paying for work on the construction of nature conservancy installations being carried out by foreign firms.

Scientist Cites Ust-Kamenogorsk 'Disaster'

LD0808175691 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA 17 Jul 91 P. 3

[Excerpts] An expert USSR Supreme Soviet commission on ecology has been working for eight months in Ust-Kamenogorsk. It came in connection with a major accident at the beryllium line of the Ulba Metallurgical Works. [passage omitted]

"Believe me, we're really not exaggerating," journalists were told at a news conference by Professor A.G. Nazarov, a Doctor of Biology and Chairman of the permanent expert commission of the USSR Supreme Soviet. "Our group made an independent assessment of the consequences of the Chernobyl accident. It is difficult to surprise us with anything, but the results obtained in Ust-Kamenogorsk are discouraging. As a result of comprehensive scientific and practical research, we came to the conclusion that Ust-Kamenogorsk today is one of the most ecologically unfavorable cities in the world.

"One-third of the city population, or 170,000 people, are drinking water poisoned with heavy metals. Already today a number of water intakes have had to be closed. In certain districts of the city drinking water needs to be transported. Atmospheric emissions have exceeded the reasonable limit. Today, up to one tonne of harmful substances are encountered by every resident—including babes-in-arms and infirm elderly people—each year. Over the decades in east Kazakhstan there has been a three-fold increase in mortality, in all age groups. There has been a drop in the birth rate. Medical-biological research of recruits in Ust-Kamenogork has shown a high blood content of chromium, boron, arsenic and lead. One in four young residents of the city suffers from anemia.

"The technogenetic load on the city is simply monstrous. Industrial effluent alone amounts to 150 million cubic meters a year. Complex organic compounds have been found in the city's atmosphere. Their effect on the human organism has simply not been studied. The commission was also alarmed by the following circumstance. In a number of rivers—Ulba, Glubochanka, (Krasnoyarka)—mutant gene centers have been discovered, i.e. geographical ranges of the spread of mutating plankton. All this allows us to declare a catastrophe whose consequences are difficult to forecast."

Without any doubt, concluded Prof A. Nazarov, it is time to declare Ust-Kamenogorsk an ecological disaster zone. [passage omitted]

Republic Communist Party Secretariat Appointments

LD0908203491 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 91 p.1

[Excerpt] The fourth plenum of the Central Committee of the Kazakh Communist Party was held on 20 July. [passage omitted: proceedings]

On the proposal of the Politburo, the plenum expanded the Secretariat of the Kazakh CP Central Committee, electing to its composition Central Committee members U.B. Baymuratov, chairman of the Council for Studying Productive Forces of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, and R.N. Prokhorenko, crane driver of the mechanization directorate of the "Kazakhtransstroy" trust.

In connection with his confirmation as chief of staff of the Supreme Soviet of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, the plenum released Kh.Sh. Takuov from his duties as chairman of the Party Control Commission of the Kazakh CP Central Committee.

The plenum confirmed V.M. Srybnykh as chief editor of KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA and released F.F.

Ignatov from this post in connection with his transfer to other work. [passage omitted]

Supreme Soviet Returns Rayon to Aktyubinsk Oblast

LD0908204491 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 91 p 1

[Summary] The Presidium of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet decrees that Isatayskiy Rayon be restored within Aktyubinsk Oblast, with its rayon centre as Akrab.

Local Enterprise Takes Over Newspaper Deliveries

PM0908141491 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Aug 91 Union Edition p 2

["Direct Line" report by Sergey Yeremeyev from Ust-Kamenogorsk: "'Guberniya' Subscribes"]

[Text] In Central Asia an unusual kind of competition is taking place among the republic's mail services: who can charge most for distributing the printed word.

They have surpassed everyone in Kazakhstan, where they have set blatantly extortionate terms for subscriptions and delivery of newspapers and journals. To avoid going bankrupt because of their state partners, the newspapermen of East Kazakhstan Oblast have decided to use the services of the small enterprise "Guberniya."

"Guberniya" understakes to deliver newspapers for the entire oblast in 1992 at this year's rates. And so the year's run of the oblast newspapers RUDNYY ALTAY and DIDAR will cost subscribers one-third less than was expected if the newspapermen had remained in association with the communications people. The editorial officers of other newspapers in the oblast which have concluded contracts with "Guberniya" will also benefit. But the communications people will apparently be the losers. Journalist Konstantin Zolotarev, director of "Guberniya," calculates that roughly a million rubles will slip through their fingers because of their desire to make easy money.

Alma-Ata Railroad's Housing Problems Aired

PM0908134591 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 6 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Report by G. Shalabayev, V. Lazarevskiy, from Alma-Ata]

[Text] [Shalabayev] The Alma-Ata Railroad, which used to be part of the famous Turksib Railroad whose 60th anniversary we celebrated last year, has always been disadvantaged in terms of social amenities, just like the rest of the country's railroads. Within the Alma-Ata branchline territory alone there are 246 old and dilapidated residential blocks like these.

[Yu. I. Lavriyenko, chief of the Alma-Ata Railroad branch] Essentially, they will all have to be demolished. Imagine demolishing 1,440 apartments. That is more than a five-year plan target. And the money for this has to be earned. It is mainly pensioners who live in these houses, the people who gave their health to create what we have today. Apart from that, there are people on the waiting list for housing, young people are growing up and getting married. They too need housing. On the one hand it is necessary to build more, and on the other hand it is necessary to free people from all kind of taxes.

[Shalabayev] Naturally, the railroad workers themselves are not looking on idly. They are building more housing privately, and by means of the cooperative and direct-labor methods. Young families are able to obtain interest-free loans. A comprehensive program also makes provision for the construction of schools, kindergartens, hospitals, sports facilities, and small enterprises. As you can see, small processing enterprises are already in operation. Average wages within the administration have risen and total 436 rubles now.

The Alma-Ata Railroad, with its more than 5,000 km, is now one of the country's major railroads in terms of length. Since its connection to the Chinese Railroad it has become a kind of transcontinental bridge linking Asia and Europe. Incidentally, literally a few days ago, regular freight traffic started flowing between Kazakhstan and China. The country has obtained a short-cut to the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans along the ancient Silk Route.

Kyrgyzstan

Republic Rally Commemorates Antitsarist Uprising

LD1208070691 Moscow TASS in English 0655 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Boris Mainayev]

[Text] Bishkek August 12 TASS—Residents of Kyrgyzstan on Sunday participated in a rally in Bishkek devoted to the 75th anniversary of an anti-tsarism uprising of Kyrgyz in 1916.

The event was attended by Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev, members of the government and public representatives.

Speakers at the meeting denied rumours about an anti-Russian character of the rally and called for unity in the multinational republic.

Agreement on Radio Industry Cooperation Signed

LD1108025691 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 2020 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] An agreement on cooperation between the USSR Radio Industry Ministry and the Republic of Kyrgyzstan has been signed in Bishkek. Direct contacts between the

central ministry and the republic will be based on partnership. This will make it possible to modernize the material and technical infrastructure of radio electronics and radio engineering enterprises in Kyrgyzstan and to expand the network of subsidiaries of existing enterprises. Priority development of this industry will help satisfy the market for consumer radio electronics products more quickly.

More on Radio Industry Agreement

LD1108080691 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0500 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] In Bishkek an agreement has been signed on the joint activity of the USSR Ministry of the Radio Industry and the Republic of Kyrgyzstan. Direct contacts between the Union ministry and the republic with be built up on the basis of a partnership. This will make it possible to modernize the material and technical basis of enterprises of the radio electronic and radio technical industry of Kyrgyzstan, and to expand all the branches of the existing enterprises. Hundreds of people will thereby be provided with jobs. And moreover the priority development in this sphere will provide the opportunity to satisfy the market with domestic radio electronic equipment more quickly.

Tajikistan

Air Controllers Decide Not To Join Strike

LD0908172791 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1626 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 9 Aug (TASS)—On 10 August, the air controllers and crew of the Tajik Civil Aviation Directorate [TCAD] will go to work, IZVESTIYA reports today. They have decided here not to join in the possible strike by their colleagues in various regions of the country .

"All the demands contained in the resolution of the USSR Cabinet of Ministers, adopted to avert the strike which was planned earlier by the air controllers, are being fulfilled," S. Goncharov, deputy chief of the TCAD reported. "Of course it cannot be said that our staff do not have any problems at all, but a plan of measures to improve working conditions in stages exists, and we are adhering to it. So there are no grounds for 'extreme' measures."

No flights on air lines inside the republic will be cancelled, Goncharov said. As far as flights on Union routes are concerned, we will try to do everything we can to ensure that passengers do not suffer here, either. We intend, in particular, to use the services of the Air Force.

Republic Limits Export of Fruit, Vegetables

LD0908180791 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1630 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] The Cabinet of Ministers of Tajikistan has taken measures on limiting the mass export of fruit and vegetable products beyond the republic's bounds. Barter trade has been taken under rigid control. From now on, both state and cooperative agricultural enterprises can make interrepublican barter deals only in exchange for those goods which Tajikistan desperately needs. Vakhidov, the republic's minister of agriculture, said that these measures had been caused by a necessity to protect their own consumer market. He also said that the decision does not relate to Tajikistan's obligations regarding supplies to the Union's fund and interrepublican agreements.

Further on Fruit, Vegetable Exports

LD1008162191 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1200 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Tajikistan's Cabinet of Ministers has adopted a decision introducing payment of duty on the exporting of fruit and vegetable produce beyond the borders of the Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic. This measure has been adopted in order to use rationally the resources of fruit and vegetable produce, and to protect the consumer market. Moreover, associations, concerns, cooperatives, and leaseholders require permission for the exporting of agricultural produce, and this is issued only by a working group attached to the Cabinet of Ministers. Exceptions to this are deliveries to the all-Union stock and deliveries under interrepublican agreements.

The size of the payable duty will fluctuate, depending on the time of year, between 30 percent and 60 percent in relation to the average market prices.